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# ***Daily Report***

# **Sub-Saharan Africa**

FBIS-AFR-90-244  
Wednesday  
19 December 1990

# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-244

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19 December 1990

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### Sassou-Nguesso Opens 26th UDEAC Summit

AB1912125490 Brazzaville Domestic Service  
in French 1830 GMT 17 Dec 90

[Excerpts] The 26th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] opened this morning at the Conference Center against the background of an acute crisis. In fact, contribution arrears are estimated at 30 billion CFA francs, and the union is facing a persistent financial plight. Guinea-Bissau, which joined the union in 1983, holds the poorest record in respect of contribution arrears. As a result, the personnel of the organization have not been paid for three months now and are in a predicament. [passage omitted]

Let us listen to President Denis Sassou-Nguesso speaking on the issues at stake:

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] We need to make radical decisions on ways and means of rescuing the union to which we are firmly committed. Evidence of this commitment is the audit which we have ordered and whose findings will be examined during our deliberations. The rescue measures which have been recommended include major internal changes in the mission and functioning of the union, as well as in its operational methods. The changes will take into account the inherent economic situation of each member state. The survival of UDEAC in 1991 will depend on the prompt adoption of clear-cut measures on the functioning of the union as well as on its administrative and financial situation. Taking into account the scarce financial resources to be made available on the basis of revised regulations, we will have to draft a list of activities for the union. [passage omitted]

Our union was born here a little over a quarter of a century ago. Indeed, our road has been arduous and full of obstacles, but we have made concrete achievements. In 1964, Brazzaville became the cradle of our subregional cooperation. In 1990, 26 years later, Brazzaville will not become the sepulcher of this ideal tool for cooperation which should be safeguarded and reactivated. [end recording]

Absent at this Brazzaville summit are Cameroonian President Paul Biya, Chadian President Idriss Deby, Central African President Andre Kolingba, and Equatorial Guinean President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo. [passage omitted]

### \* Countries Seek Mauritian EPZ Expertise

91AF0297A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French  
7 Nov 90 pp 1, 12

[Article by Leon Baya: "Free Zone: Togo, Benin and Cameroon Seek Mauritian Expertise"]

[Text]

### A Mission to These Countries Next Year

Togo, Benin, and Cameroon, the only three African countries represented at the minister's level at the Conference on the Development Strategies of Industrial Free Zones, which was held about 10 days ago at the Pullman Hotel, are seeking Mauritian expertise on free zones. A request for aid in that context was presented to the Mauritian Government.

The industry ministers of Togo and Cameroon and the trade minister of Benin had an opportunity to discuss the matter with their Mauritian counterpart, Mr. Cassam Uteem, at a meeting organized at the initiative of Mr. Kadress Venkatachellum, director of the UNIDO [UN Industrial Development Organization] program in Togo, Benin, and Niger.

"The three ministers expressed their satisfaction after their short visit to Mauritius. They were impressed by the success of our free zone, and in particular by the quality of the Mauritian experts' reports presented at the Pullman conference. It was in this context that the industry minister of Togo asked the Mauritian Government to send a mission to Lome during the first quarter of 1991. The minister asked me to organize this mission, Mr. Venkatachellum indicated.

At the request of the ministers of Benin and Cameroon, the mission will also be asked to go to these countries to share its experience. According to Mr. Venkatachellum, the delegation would include officials from the Mauritius Export Development and Investment Authorities, the Mauritius Export Processing Zone Association, and the Mauritius Bankers Association.

Togo and Cameroon have just launched their free-zone projects, and Benin is considering a similar move. According to Mr. Venkatachellum, there are great prospects for Mauritian consultants wishing to offer their services to African countries. "If that was the case for the sugar industry, why not for the free zone," Mr. Venkatachellum asked. He also told us he regretted that no Mauritians had favorably answered the call for applications issued by Togolese authorities for two positions as managers of the Togolese companies in charge of free-zone management and free-zone promotion.

A former principal assistant secretary at the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Venkatachellum worked successively for the World Bank, the African Development Bank, and joined UNIDO in 1983. He was an industrial adviser in Ethiopia and Djibouti for six years; since October 1989, he has been entrusted with three countries: Togo, Benin, and Niger.

Before leaving, Mr. Venkatachellum gave us an interview that we shall publish tomorrow.

**Chad****Deby on Habre, Denies Deal With Al-Qadhdhafi**

AB1812214090 Paris AFP in French 0403 GMT  
18 Dec 90

[Text] Paris, 18 Dec (AFP)—Idriss Deby, the new Chadian head of state, wants to sue his predecessor, Hissein Habre, in court for "a crime against humanity." He said that the former president was responsible for the death of many Chadians, especially soldiers assassinated by his secret police."

In an interview published today by the French daily LE FIGARO, Idriss Deby accused Hissein Habre of "having fled like a coward, filled mass graves, emptied state coffers, and organized a drug syndicate." Before leaving Chad, Hissein Habre, according to the man who drove him away, "ordered the liquidation of 300 political detainees" and "killed with his own hands" Hassan Djamous (Deby's cousin and former commander in chief of the Chadian Army) and two brothers of the new president.

Idriss Deby also said that he had "never met with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and never made any written or oral pledge to Tripoli."

"I have never put Chadian territory up for sale," he said.

Last, the new Chadian leader thought that the French Army had observed "strict neutrality" in the conflict between him and Hissein Habre. "France," he concluded, "is a country I respect, and I thank it for having considered this conflict as an issue among Chadians."

**Habre Calls For Conference To Determine Future**

AB1812214490 Paris AFP in English 1814 GMT  
18 Dec 90

[Text] Libreville, Dec 18 (AFP)—Hissein Habre, former Chadian head of state, called for a national conference on the political future of the country in a statement received here on Tuesday.

The statement said the National Union for Independence and Revolution (UNIR), the party in power when Mr. Habre was president, was ready to enter "into a political debate for integral multipartism and a pluralist democracy."

The text, faxed to the AFP office in Gabon and dated December 17, was sent from Maidougouri, a city in northern Nigeria.

**Gabon****'Arafat Makes Stopover, Comments on Gulf**

AB1812173690 Dakar PANA in French 1721 GMT  
17 Dec 90

[Text] Libreville, Dec (AGP-GAB/PANA)—Early this afternoon, Yasir 'Arafat, the Palestinian head of state, made a technical stopover in Libreville, where he was welcomed by Gabonese Justice Minister Michel Anchouey accompanied Gabonese Foreign Minister Ali Bongo. This flying visit is part of a continental tour that enables us at each stop to inform our African peers about the situation in the Middle East—more precisely, about the risks of war that are threatening world peace, Mr. 'Arafat stated.

The PLO leader strongly condemned the unprecedented concentration of foreign troops in the Gulf. One can be optimistic about a negotiated and peaceful settlement of Middle East problems, he said.

Mr. 'Arafat fears, however, the consequences of a possible war in the world's richest oil region. This is because the world economy will suffer a great deal from it. Efforts like those of President Bongo should be stepped up in order to avoid the tragedy of the century. UN resolutions should be globally applied to the hotbeds of tension, he concluded.

**Rwanda****Radio Reports 'Sporadic' Attacks Continue**

EA1812220590 Kigali Domestic Service in French  
1800 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] How is the military situation in the northern part of our country? This morning, some of the diplomats accredited to Kigali, such as the Belgian ambassador, the Zairian charge d'affaires, and the head of the diplomatic office of Canada, visited the Kaniga front in Byumba Prefecture. We recall very well, in fact, that Dr. Casimir Bizimungu, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, recently invited the diplomatic and consular corps to make visits on the spot to see for themselves that attacks on Rwanda could only emanate from outside. Our colleague, Thomas Kamilindi, went to Kaniga and made this report:

[Begin recording] [Kamilindi] On 3 December, the enemy invaded the Kaniga border post, destroying the generator and installations of the customs office. They were later repulsed by the Rwandan Army and since then have been launching sporadic attacks, sometimes four per night, except for the last two days, which have been marked by relative peace because the fighting has shifted toward the offices of the Kiyombe Commune.

On 12 December, 600 of the enemy came in. On the 14th, they were heavily defeated, losing 60 men with quantities of equipment destroyed, against 10 men killed

on the side of Rwanda. Among the dead assailants, the Rwandan Army identified soldiers from the National Resistance Army [NRA, of Uganda] Fourth Brigade based in Gulu, northern Uganda, and who were still in NRA uniforms. The aggressors cross the border without any harassment in spite of the fact that the Ugandan regular forces have taken up positions three kilometers away. But they are not cooperating at all. Contacts made with them by the Rwandan side have all been fruitless. They do not even bother to go out on patrol to stop enemy infiltrations against our country.

The joint Rwandan-Ugandan military observer team encountered a lot of problems in making on-the-spot investigations because administrative inertia and delayed authorizations give the enemy enough time to take up positions and hide his (?misdeeds).

The current fighting is taking place near the border. The big problem is that the border runs along hills, with one slope on the Rwandan side and the other on the Ugandan side and along the (Rwene) valley. The enemy comes in under cover, and the Rwandan troops see him too late. There is no border in real terms, only vast agricultural fields on hills and it is difficult to know if one is in Uganda or Rwanda. The assailants for their part know the area well. The enemy keeps on shelling the Rwandan positions from Ugandan territory and the Rwandan forces cannot reply because that is foreign territory.

The enemy has changed his tactics of (?attacking). Right now he fights on the move, mixing guerrilla and conventional war. We hear he is continuing to recruit and train new men, notably in the famous (Rwene) valley. They fight fiercely to death and seem to be on drugs. When they hesitate to go forward, others in the rear encourage them

with beatings. Every tiny area they occupy is planted with anti-tank mines. Numbers of civilians from Uganda follow the assailants to steal iron roofing sheets, doors, windows, and the contents of the Rwandan homes.

The Rwandan Army must, of course, be in control of every square meter of our territory and the population cooperates with them fully.

At all events, the diplomats returned to Kigali convinced that the enemy comes from outside. At Gatuna, the Belgian ambassador summarized their impressions:

[Belgian ambassador] Here in Gatuna and Kaniga, we have witnessed the efforts being made by the military authorities to protect the population and national border against the attack launched from outside. The tour was made at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and we were accompanied by Mr. Bizimana, its secretary general, who allowed us to hear on-the-spot briefings with concrete information on the attacks made and steps taken to maintain vigilance. This is my main impression of the tour.

[Kamilindi] [Words indistinct] those who attack us [words indistinct].

[Ambassador] Well, we are aware of the problems since the attack of 1 October. From the very beginning, we recommended a cease-fire and initiation of negotiations. [Word indistinct] on both sides, I hope that the diplomatic process launched, notably through the Mwanza agreements and supported by the international community, and also strongly supported by the Belgian Government, quickly leads to success so that long-term peace and stability can return to the region and Rwanda is able to fully resume its development. For this we promise our full support. [end recording]

## Kenya

**Wamwere Statement Claims Kidnapping, Torture**

EA1812183690 Nairobi DAILY NATION  
in English 18 Dec 90 p 1

[By Andrew Kuria]

[Excerpts] Mr Koigi Wa Wamwere claimed yesterday that he was kidnapped from Uganda, where he had gone to link up with a relative, and brought to Kenya to answer treason charges.

In an affidavit he filed in the High Court, the former legislator said: On September 8, 1990, at about 11 pm, about five hooded men burst into my hotel room, pounced on me and pinned me down on my bed. I was very stunned and thought that they had come to kill me and, given a previous attempt on my life, I genuinely believed that my end had come. The hooded men immediately blindfolded me and tied a tape around my mouth.

I verily believe that the tape was heavily drugged for I passed out almost immediately and I never knew what happened subsequently. When I regained consciousness, I found myself in a small dark cell and I realised that I was in the torture chambers of the notorious Nyayo House where I was welcomed back home.

Mr Wamwere, a former member of Parliament for Nakuru North, said he had arrived in Entebbe, Uganda, from self-exile in Norway on August 10 and travelled to Busia town on September 6. Two days later, hooded men abducted him, he said in his affidavit filed by his lawyer, Mr Japheth Shamalla.

He and six other men have been charged with attempting to overthrow the Kenya Government. But Mr Wamwere said yesterday that his fundamental rights and freedoms under the Constitution had been, and are being, or, and are likely to be, violated.

And his lawyer said that Mr Wamwere's rights had been violated as, having fled Kenya to avoid political persecution and having obtained political asylum in Norway with no wish to return to Kenya, he had been forcefully and illegally kidnapped in a neighbouring country. The former MP was tortured to extract confessions, "and was subjected to inhuman treatment" the affidavit states. [passage omitted]

And at Nairobi's Nyayo House, where his abductors took him, he says, his cell was painted black all over and cold and hot, dry air was alternately blown in through a fan, freezing or suffocating him.

Mr Wamwere claims that he was stripped naked and his hands handcuffed at the back. He was made to lie on his back on a bare floor covered with a layer of dust and dried human excreta and was not allowed toilet facilities. And, during subsequent interrogation, he says he was blindfolded, led out of the cell barefoot into a lift and

into the interrogation room where he appeared before between three and seven people at each session. Interrogation was always conducted at gun-point and he was constantly threatened with death.

"Some of the interrogating officers, calling themselves 'opiyo,' 'rono' and 'muriithi', informed me, which information I verily believe to be true that they had express instructions to get rid of me and that the only way I could save my life was by co-operating with them. I was truly fearful for my life," Mr Wamwere says in his affidavit.

He was also told that if he co-operated he could get a light jail sentence. [passage omitted]

The former legislator was forced to admit that he was involved in sending Kenya Patriotic Front (KPF) pamphlets to influential people in Kenya such as church leaders, lawyers and politicians. He also claims that he was forced by his interrogators to admit that the KPF, an underground movement, was funded by the Governments of Uganda, Libya, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and human rights organisations like Amnesty International. [passage omitted]

While in the cells at Nyayo House, he says, he was forced to admit that he and other "dissidents" had formed a shadow cabinet made up of Kenyan multi-party proponents such as Professor Wangari Mathai (of the Greenbelt movement), lawyers G.B.M. Kariuki, Paul Muite, John Khaminwa, Rumba Kinuthia, Mirugi Kariuki, historian Mukuru Ngunya, Bishop Henry Okullu of the Church of the Province of Kenya (CPK), the CPK's Reverend Elijah Yego, and the Reverend Dr Timothy Njoya of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. [passage omitted]

**\* Pest Outbreak May Cause 'Economic Disaster'**

91AF0327A Nairobi DAILY NATION in English  
26 Oct 90 pp 1, VIII

[Article by Chege wa Gachamba; words in italics as published; quotation marks as published]

[Text] There is a crisis looming over Kenya which if not checked could wipe out all the country's cypress trees.

Colonies of parasitic insects are attacking and sounding the death knell to Kenya's cypress trees by sapping them dry. It is a disaster which has alarmed thousands of wananchi as it continues spreading at a phenomenal rate.

Their patiently-nurtured cypress hedges and commercial trees are losing their beautiful green colour and turning yellow to brown before dying. It is a phenomenon which has left many wananchi watching helplessly, while others, confounded by the previously unknown problem, believe it is a curse from the gods.

But according to sources at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Nairobi, the curse of the cypress trees is a crawling and flying insect, the size of a body-louse, called *cinara cupressi* or cypress aphid.



"It is a relatively new problem here. Not much is known about the insect and we are still studying its epidemiology," says Dr Jeff Odera, director of the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI).

The aphid pest outbreak was first noticed in Kenya at Kiserian in March. It had originally been noticed in Malawi in 1986 and is thought to have spread northwards to Tanzania, Rwanda, Zaire and Uganda before entering Kenya.

"We suspect it was brought to Kenya with hardwood timber imported from the south," says Odera. Kenya imports softwoods from Zambia and hardwoods from Tanzania and Uganda.

After being identified in Kajiado District, the pest has since spread inwards and has been confirmed in South Nyanza, Kisii and Nyamira districts of Nyanza Province; Kakamega in Western Province; Kericho Narok and Kajiado districts of the Rift Valley; and in Machakos, Nairobi, Kiambu and Murang'a.

Meanwhile, more cases continue to be reported as the deadly aphid continues to conquer new grounds.

"We are headed for a major ecological and economic disaster unless something is done quickly," says Crispus R.J. Nyaga, Director of Forestry.

Introduced in Kenya in 1910, cypress has become the most valuable industrial tree since the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources recently banned commercial exploitation of indigenous trees. It had all along proved resistant to diseases except armillaria root rot. Cypress is fast growing, maturing in 30 years, and exploitable in 10 years. It has been the main provider of building timber, industrial wood and paper.

Cypress covers 45 percent of the 168,000 ha [hectares] of industrial plantations in Kenya. The rest is under pine (30 percent), eucalyptus (10 percent), while the remaining 15 percent is under a mixture of hard woods, indigenous and exotic trees.

Shelter belts, shade trees and live fences in private farms have another 10,000 ha of cypress.

Nyaga is coordinating the national anti-cypress aphid control and recently formed the Cypress Aphid Control Unit (CACU). His ministry has already held two seminars involving all provincial and district foresters in which the aphid epidemic features prominently.

A surveillance team from the Forest Department headquarters and Kefri is also making educational tours to enlighten the ministry's field officers on how best to detect and combat the aphid while the department of forestry has been advising the public to report suspected cases.

The department's officers are spraying infected Government forests with chemicals using motorised sprayers and protective clothing while individual farmers "should

be mobilised to suppress its epidemiology within their farms using appropriate tools and chemicals at the supervision of District Forest Officers," says Nyaga.

Wananchi have to be educated on how to identify and eradicate the pest on their farms and homes. This involves demonstrations and advisory services, says Emmanuel A. Adongo, Head of Research Liaison Branch and Officer in-charge of CACU.

The task force is recommending spraying of infected hedges and trees of below 10 years, while those of over 15 years should be cut down and harvested. It is recommending the use of such locally available chemicals as Ambush, Karate, Marshal and Diazinon. One litre can spray an acre. They say a solution of soap and these chemicals is also quite effective.

However they discourage the use of Diazinon in farmlands with foodstuffs like vegetables and animal fodder. "It is highly toxic and should be used on forest land, and while wearing protective clothing," they say.

Tree planting programmes in affected and susceptible areas should be diversified and alternated. "Cypress, in particular should not exceed 30 percent of the total planting done in any given year in a district," says Nyaga.

In fact his department recommends cypress (30 percent), *pinus patula* (36), other pines (5), eucalyptus (20) and other hardwoods (20).

In areas where the aphid is considered a major threat, cypress should not be planted alone. It should be mixed in a 50-50 ratio with such species as *Grevillea robusta*, *Acacia melanoxylon*, *pinus patula* or *pinus maximinoi*.

The department is also advocating for the planting of more of other trees—eucalyptus, soft and hard woods in places where cypress has been the main source of saw wood and plywood materials.

According to Odera, the ultimate control strategy lies in identifying a natural predator of the cypress aphid. "We are liaising with the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, London, in the search for a biological solution," he says.

In early Seventies when the local pine plantations were threatened by the pine woolly aphid, the scientists came up with *Tetrachleps*, an insect which eats the pine pest.

Pine woolly aphid had been introduced in Kenya from Europe in 1968. It took the scientists five years to come up with the solution from Europe and Pakistan.

Odera believes the international effort might identify a cypress aphid predator within a shorter period. "We might get it in one year's time. We will then need another year for screening and quarantining the predator," he says.

But on a rather apprehensive note, Odera is quick to point out that, they are "still doing biological analysis. Information on the cypress aphid is still scanty." He however says the pest seems to be more destructive in warmer marginal zones as compared to cooler wetter areas.

This is perhaps why the pest has not yet been reported in places like Nyandarua, Nyeri, Meru and Embu districts. That may also be the reason the pest is "not active in its original habitat in temperate and Mediterranean Europe," says Zephania Anyieni, chairman of the Presidential Commission on Afforestation and Soil conservation.

Another solution could be looking for a resistant strand of cypress tree. Kefri has received reports from Burundi of certain resistant types of cypress. That is the other angle they are looking at.

Asked whether they would consider aerial spraying of cypress plantations among other stop-gap measures, Nyaga and Odera concur that that would not be effective.

Says Odera: "The aphid colonies are not always at the top branches of trees while the local terrain of valleys, ridges and hills makes manipulating of the aerial spraying difficult. There is also the risk of the chemical being blown into areas where it is not wanted.

An added dimension to the cypress aphid epidemic is the pest's threat to an estimated 200,000 ha of indigenous cedar which forms a vital forest cover and rain catchment zones over such high-land areas of Mt Kenya, the Aberdares, Cherangani, the Mau and Samburu.

Odera emphasises the need to stage coordinated control measures. "Some of the aphids are winged and do easily fly from neighbouring farms or plantations onto trees which had been earlier sprayed," he says.

Many Nairobi residents have been helplessly watching their well-trimmed cypress hedges dying. In Langata Estate, South B, Eastlands, Lavinton etc, the pattern has been the same.

When this happened to Mohan Meakin's liquor estate at Athi River, they sought advice from the area's district forestry department. They were told to keep spraying chemicals and periodically to the cypress hedges and "about 50 percent of the fence is turning green again," says Mohan Galot.

His cypress hedges have been craftily designed into shapes of arches, bottles, birds, giraffes, kangaroos, lions and elephants creating quite a spectacle to the eye. He had spent over Sh100,000 [Shillings] and taken much trouble nurturing them and has much sentimental attachment to the hedges and flowers, he says.

For Peter Kimani, the hedge around his tiny plot had all along provided security and privacy in the crowded

Harambee Estate. But unlike Meakin, he still doesn't know what curse inflicted his once beautiful hedge.

There is also the question of the costs of chemicals which have to be sprayed weekly or fortnightly and the availability of pumps. "Ordinary pumps used on coffee, vegetables, livestock etc. can be used, but the department of forestry will, if requested, spray even on individual farms at a price. But it is not cheap," says Adongo. They would charge about Sh10 per metre of hedge, he says.

According to Nyaga, they have given three motorised pumps for the task to every district and the number will be increased when money becomes available.

Adongo says "some people in Nyamira believe that if one dares use or even touch such withered trees and hedges, bad luck and even death may befall him."

Others say if a woman warms herself with such firewood, she will become infertile says Assistant Minister for Home Affairs, Andrew Omanga.

Establishing a cypress hedge or plantation is an expensive affair. Sources at Government-owned Karura Forest nurseries say the smallest cypress seedling costs Sh1 while at the private Chris Harris Nurseries they sell at Sh6. Cultivation, manuring, watering, trimming and general maintenance costs even more.

Sources in such leading chemical firms as Rhone-Poulenc's and Bayer E.A. Ltd say there should be no shortage of the relevant chemicals. Colin Gunson, Bayer's technical manager believes "repeated spraying will contain the problem but the ultimate solution lies in a biological and 'silvicultural' solutions."

Other firms like Anicare Limited of Westlands are already "offering free advisory service on ways to identify and control the pest," says Dr Vincent Masawi.

Anicare advises people to spray chemicals and apply foliar feed to their small trees, hedges and nurseries to stimulate new growth.

People in the chemical firms could, however, not say whether they would give the Government a hand in a public-enlightenment campaign like sponsoring television, radio and print media adverts.

"If unchecked, the pest's effect on the environment, the wood based industries, and the national economy in general would be colossal," says Nyaga.

As Nyaga coordinates the anti-cypress aphid efforts from his Kencom Building office, one of his biggest handicaps is shortage of funds.

When the problem was diagnosed in March, the Ministry reallocated Sh500,000 towards fighting the menace. His team bought pesticides, 15 motorised pumps and then headed for Kiserian, where they have managed to contain the problem.

In May, the aphids were spotted at Thogoto, Kiambu and Narok and the Nyaga team realised the problem was much bigger than they had imagined. Recently, the department managed to convince the Treasury for another Sh5m. But this is still a drop in the ocean considering the mammoth task ahead.

The department has not submitted a document to the Treasury seeking foreign donors to help to finance the aphid control project to a tune of an estimated Sh90m of which about Sh20m will go into long-term research says Nyaga.

### Somalia

#### Air Force Base Said Attacked; 'Foreign' Pilots

AB1812180690 London BBC World Service in English  
1615 GMT 18 Dec 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Reports from Somalia say that the country's biggest Air Force base has been attacked by rebels and a number of Somali Air Force planes destroyed. It is the latest incident in the current wave of political instability and civil strife affecting Somalia. At the same time, the BBC has obtained evidence that the Somali Government is employing foreign mercenaries in its Air Force. Peter Bowels reports from neighboring Kenya:

[Begin Bowels recording] According to reliable sources, the attack on the Barley Douglass Air Force base, which lies at the west of Mogadishu on the main road to Baidoa, took place on Sunday. It is thought to have been carried out by rebels of the United Somali Congress, who were recently reported to be only 50 km from Mogadishu and also known to have infiltrated the capital in four groups.

At least three Somali Air Force planes are said to have been destroyed in the attack. This is certain to have a serious effect on the future capability of Somalia's small air force. There are also unconfirmed reports that the government-held town of Beledweyne, close to the Ethiopian border, has recently been attacked by rebel forces.

It also emerged that the Somali Government recently authorized the payment of \$600,000 for the services of a number of foreign pilots and technicians, who are flying Hunter aircraft for the Somali Air Force. The payment is for a period of 12 months from 13 November this year. On Sunday, the biggest rebel group, the Somali National Movement [SNM], alleged that nearly 80 foreign mercenaries from South Africa and other countries had been recruited by President Siad Barre. The SNM again ruled out peace talks with the Somali Government, as they said President Barre no longer controls the country or even the capital, Mogadishu. [end recording]

#### Former Premier Asks Siad Barre To Step Down

AB1812211690 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 17 Dec 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The former Somali prime minister, Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim Egal, has urged President Mohamed Siad Barre to step down. He said Somalia was dying of corruption, mismanagement, and ignorance.

In an open letter to the nation, Mr. Egal said that President Siad Barre had only two options: to step down or have to flee what he called the vengeful nation. He appealed to the Italian Government to offer President Siad Barre asylum and said a transitional government should then be formed in consultation with rebel movements to lead the country to multiparty elections.

Mr. Egal was the last democratically elected prime minister before the military takeover in 1969, which brought President Siad Barre to power.

**President F. W. De Klerk's 'Year End' Address**

MB1812191290 Johannesburg Television Service  
in English 1800 GMT 18 Dec 90

[“Year End” Address by State President F. W. de Klerk, location not given—live or recorded; De Klerk speaks alternately in Afrikaans and English]

[Text] Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

[Afrikaans] My message tonight is directed to all South Africans, to you following this broadcast in Katlehong or Thokoza, in KwaZulu or Queenstown, at the sea or the house, to farmers in Pietersburg, to factory workers in the western Cape, to housewives in Constantia, to all the people who make up the rich differentiation of our community; to each one of us who calls himself or herself an South African.

We are at the end of one of the most important years of our history. The developments that took place since the 2 February 1990 will always affect our lives and the lives of our children. This year was a year when a lot was achieved, it was also a year full of promise, as well as a year with its disappointments. It was especially a year where we succeeded in breaking away from most of the severe ties of the past, a year where we as South Africans began to talk to each other about historical barriers. The political processes were normalized in a single year. All political parties can practice their politics freely. All political leaders can now participate in the growing national debate. All ideas and ideologies are analyzed and are being looked at openly and in the full light of open discussion. Leaders who previously stood in the background or in the wings are now important or leading participants in the search for constitutional solutions. These and other developments have helped, helped to change international perceptions of our country. We have made great changes in our attempts to break away from international isolation, as indicated recently with the decision taken by the European Community on financial sanctions. Briefly, since the beginning of the year we have made outstanding changes. I want to say a sincere thank you to all who have worked so hard, those who have risked so much and those who have sacrificed so much during this year to assist their country on the road to the future.

[English] At the same time the opening up of our society has aroused uncertainty and tension based on racial fears among some and dangerous and unrealistic expectation among others. The high level of social unrest has all too often erupted in violence. It has unleashed emotions threatening the progress we have made. Our successes have driven some elements not interested in peaceful change, to step up their efforts to disrupt society. A state of fear has descended on many of our black townships. Since the beginning of the year more than 3,000 people have died through violence. Millions of rand in damage have been caused by the vandalization of schools, universities, homes and vehicles. For hundreds of thousands of young people a whole year's education has been lost. In some areas local

government has ground to a halt. Elected councillors have been intimidated. Funds have run out because of service boycotts. Basic services have been disrupted causing hardship to many thousands and disrupting the lives of whole communities. Intimidation is rampant. Too often people make decisions not through conviction but because they are terrified. Political leaders at the radical fringes provoke confrontation and threaten violence. Crime has reached unacceptable levels. There can no longer be any excuse whatsoever for such behavior. Genuine grievances can now be democratically aired and the road to negotiation is open. The government has no intention of allowing these destructive developments to continue unchallenged.

[Text] [Afrikaans] The maintenance of law and order is not negotiable. The first duty of any responsible government is to protect the lives and properties of all its citizens. That is the most basic of all human rights. All the other rights rests upon this.

The government is, as a result, determined to take all necessary steps to maintain law and order throughout the whole community. At the same time we dare not allow this negative tendency to take us off course. Problems must be solved and that is precisely what should and will happen in 1991.

When I say this I am not trying to hide the seriousness of these problems. There is definitely a reason for serious concern over this issue. Concern and despair alone will, however, not bring us anywhere. We must take the bull by the horns and act to rectify the issues that are wrong, and to ensure that the new and just South Africa that all South Africans are striving for are not destroyed by radicalism and chaos. With this in mind the government has already taken far-reaching steps: the strengthening of the police force, the use of the South African Defense Force where necessary, the declaration of unrest areas and the establishment of a fund of three billion rand to approach socioeconomic problems.

More progress has been made through negotiation than one would have perceived a year ago. Nevertheless, it is clear that more will have to be done concerning security measures. In this regard further steps and initiatives will be taken shortly. They will include the increase and extension of unbiased police action aimed at the stabilization of affected areas. The aim is more effective measures to combat crime, disorder, unrest, and intimidation. We also plan to stabilize local government in order to put us in a position to resume all basic services in all black communities.

[English] It is however clear that we will not be able to achieve our objectives solely by stepping up the activities of the police. If we are to succeed in this endeavor we will need the support of all South Africans of goodwill, and particularly of all major political and other organizations. It is not only the government that is concerned about the factors I have mentioned. Nearly all major parties have called for an end to the intimidation and



violence, for a return to school of school children to their classrooms and for the promotion of genuine democracy.

The time has now come for the organizations involved to put these worthy objectives into effect. It is essential that we should reach agreement on what is acceptable in our society and what is not. I say violence is unacceptable. There can no longer be any excuse whatsoever for violence. No one has the right to use violence against others to advance their political objectives. Those who have political differences should resolve them through negotiations.

Intimidation is also unacceptable. No one has the right to terrorize others or to force them to act against their will. Intimidation is completely irreconcilable with the principles of democracy.

The incitement of racial hatred is unacceptable. Slogans such as "One Settler, One Bullet," and slogans urging violence against black South Africans are absolutely unacceptable. South Africans should not tolerate those who fan the fires of racial hatred.

The nonpayment for services is unacceptable. In no society in the world the organized nonpayment for services will be tolerated. [sentence as heard] Without revenue some communities will soon be confronted with the total collapse of essential services.

Mass action aimed at the widespread disruption of society to force political concessions, or which may result in violence is unacceptable. Such mass action breeds confrontation and conflict. Some of those involved imagine that they can dictate the future of South Africa by inflammatory mass mobilization. That is the road to disaster.

The increasing incidence of crime is unacceptable. Citizens have a right to feel safe in their homes, on the streets and in their vehicles. The current role of the radicalized youth is unacceptable. Many of the problems which I have mentioned have been caused by or greatly inflamed by radicalized young people. These young people belong in their classrooms, not in the streets. Young people must be involved in programs that will get them back to school and enable them to play a constructive role in society. None of these unacceptable trends has anything to do with genuine democracy. They have no place in preparing the way for the new South Africa. They will therefore not be tolerated by any South Africans of goodwill. All South Africans who want a peaceful and prosperous future should become involved in combating them.

[Afrikaans] For this reason, it is disappointing that some political organizations are still caught up in undemocratic and unacceptable strategy and actions. It is also disappointing that the ANC [African National Congress], during its recent conference, apparently decided to return to worn out rhetoric and policies that are fanning the flames of confrontation. During this conference they continued to talk about the transfer of power,

knowing that the aim of the proposed negotiations is to determine how to share power and prevent oppression in the interest of all South Africans.

They demanded a constitutional assembly and an interim government, thus trying to anticipate the importance of negotiations and the constitutional process. They went ahead to propagate their worn out revolutionary dogmas and radical methods, knowing quite well that this is contrary to the actual commitment to peaceful solutions. They refused to admit that any fundamental changes had taken place in South Africa, despite the fact that for the first time in 30 years they and their leaders could hold a conference in the Republic of South Africa legally and without any hindrances.

The time has come for the ANC to decide what it wants. Is it really prepared to accept its leaders' commitment at Groote Schuur and Pretoria to peaceful and negotiated solutions, or does it want to return to the confrontations and conflicts of the past?

[English] I want to reassure all peace-loving South Africans who are reaching out to a new era of peace and prosperity. The government shall not allow a state of anarchy in our country. We will not capitulate to radical pressure. We will not shrink back from using all available resources to ensure stability.

In 1991 we will steer a firm and steady course of fundamental reform and orderly constructive negotiations. There can be no compromise on the protection of basic democratic and civilized values. We will continue to build a new South Africa in step with the free world. A new and just South Africa, which will ensure peace, prosperity, progress, and political participation for all our citizens.

[Afrikaans] During this time of goodwill, I would like to call on all South Africans and all political parties and organizations to devote themselves anew to peaceful solutions to our country's problems. I call on them to renounce all forms of violence and intimidation and to encourage their followers to join us in the new year in constructive and peaceful negotiation.

That is the requirement and the prayers of the majority of all our people. May you, during this festive season, experience the peace and reconciliation that is the true message of Christmas. And may God lead us in 1991 along the road of progress and stability for our country and all its people. Let us move on with determination, there's work [to be done].

#### ANC Reaction Noted

MB1812210490 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1954 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 18 SAPA—Should the government need any clarification on decisions reached at the ANC's [African National Congress] Consultative Conference at the weekend it would be given, the ANC said on Tuesday night.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus, commenting on President F W de Klerk's address to the nation televised on Tuesday night, said the organisation had "taken note of the points raised in the statement".

"The recent consultative conference of the ANC took a number of decisions that clearly state the position of the movement on critical issues. If there are areas or issues in those decisions on which the government needs clarification or more information, such clarification would be provided in contact with the government at the initiation of either party," she said in a short statement telephoned to SAPA.

### De Beer Comments

*MB1812214490 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1852 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 18 SAPA—State President F W de Klerk must not "shuffle off responsibility" which was clearly his, Democratic Party [(DP) leader Dr Zach de Beer said on Tuesday.

Dr de Beer, in a telephone call to SAPA, was commenting on Mr De Klerk's Christmas message to the nation televised on Tuesday evening.

He said Mr de Klerk's speech in the main consisted of "motherhood and apple pie. He says a great many entirely supportable things, and when he wishes us a Merry Christmas, I am sure we all respond positively."

The DP leader said the recurring theme of the president's message was that the incidence of crime was unacceptable.

"Of course it is—every politician can confirm that the people are crying out for crime to be brought under control. But it is not the task of the DP to stop the crime. It is not the task of the ANC or of the Conservative Party. As long as Mr de Klerk runs the country it is his responsibility and that of his government."

It was all very well for the president to say that claims for an interim government or a constituent assembly must not be substituted for the negotiating process... "We largely agree with him, but it is his responsibility to get the negotiations off the ground and running."

Dr de Beer said the DP was, as always, there to help. "But the president must not seek to shuffle off responsibility which is plainly his own."

### Azapo Notes 'Hypocrisy'

*MB1912134290 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1333 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] Pretoria Dec 19 SAPA—President F.W. de Klerk's hypocrisy was evident when he dismissed the demand for a constituent assembly, the Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] said on Wednesday in response to Mr. de Klerk's Christmas address to the nation.

Azapo Transvaal Vice-President Mr. Gomolemo Mokae said the proposed constituent assembly had come to be recognised by all groups in the liberation struggle as the ideal mechanism for resolving the South African conflict.

He said Mr. de Klerk had attempted to exploit the Christmas spirit of peace and goodwill, but his motives were betrayed when he poured scorn on black demands for a transfer of power.

There could be no lasting peace this Christmas, or at any other time, while the "De Klerk's of this would continue to ignore the treason of forcibly taking land away from people. Once land has been forcibly taken away from natives, peace has been dealt a fatal blow."

Mr. Mokae said Mr. de Klerk's "sabre rattling" came as no surprise to Azapo.

"His delusions of grandeur are so grand and pronounced he has come to perceive the National Party and himself as the divinely ordained rulers of occupied Azania."

### Vlok, ANC's Sisulu Tour Squatter Camps 19 Dec

*MB1912093090 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0914 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and the ANC's [African National Congress] internal leader, Mr Walter Sisulu, toured squatter camps in Bekkersdal township outside Johannesburg on Wednesday [19 Dec] morning and listened to claims by squatters of how police had allegedly aided attacks on their shacks.

Thirteen people have died this month in clashes between rival groups in Bekkersdal on the West Rand, according to police liaison officer Capt Henriette Bester.

A squatter, Ms Margaret Seoka, 66, told Mr Vlok that Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] supporters aided by the police, had burnt her house down. Mr Vlok encouraged all squatters who complained to him and Mr Sisulu of police complicity to lay charges. These would be investigated by the SA Police.

The pair toured the squatter camp in a new armoured police urban patrol vehicle—the Nyala Mark II. Only ten of the vehicles were made and were in use following testing of the prototype three months ago, a policeman said.

Addressing about 400 people afterwards, Mr Sisulu appealed for peace and unity. Mr Vlok, endorsing the call, said government would do everything possible to assist the squatters. He wished the assembled people a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

### Tambo Returns to Hometown, Calls for Struggle

*MB1812171990 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1515 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 18 SAPA—Jubilation and a call to intensify the struggle against apartheid marked ANC [African National Congress] President Oliver Tambo's return to his hometown of Wattville near Benoni on Tuesday for the first time in 30 years.

Mr Tambo spent the day visiting relatives and old friends before addressing a gathering of about 2000 people at Wattville stadium on Tuesday afternoon.

"We're happy to be back and particularly to return to Benoni after an absence of 30 years," Mr Tambo said.

The crowd cheered as Mrs Adelaide Tambo, and the couple's son and two daughters, were introduced.

In his address Mr Tambo told the singing crowd to intensify the struggle against apartheid and to prepare to take full control of their lives.

Mr Tambo hailed the unbanning of the ANC, the release of political prisoners, the return of some exiles and "other positive developments" as significant in the liberation struggle.

"But we also return in the midst of one of the most tragic phases in the history of our country. The violence that apartheid has unleashed on our people with blind fury has claimed countless lives in Natal in the past five years," he said.

"This year the ruthless slaughter of our people has spread to all parts of the country like wildfire. The East Rand in particular has become the brunt of the regime's latest offensive," Mr Tambo charged, expressing his sorrow to the relatives of the victims of the violence.

The 73-year-old ANC president said the masses could free themselves only if "we unite in action and act in unity".

He called on the youth to unite and link with organisations "so we can move with one mighty contingent. The youth and others alike must endeavour to improve their education and technical know-how."

Mr Tambo also came out strongly against "gender oppression" and called on women to "join and work dilligently in women's organisations".

Mr Tambo spoke slowly with a slight slur and walked with a limp, both signs of the stroke he suffered last year.

#### Further on 'Tamboville'

MB1812172690 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1558 GMT 18 Dec 90

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 18 SAPA—ANC President Oliver Tambo returned to his home-town of Wattville on Tuesday and officially "opened" Tamboville—an informal housing settlement near Benoni—as well as the land marked for his house to be built in the township early next year.

Both ceremonies were marked by Mr. Tambo's cutting of black, green and gold ribbons while crowds sang, danced and shouted "Viva Tambo".

Mr Tambo was accompanied by his wife, Adelaide, his two daughters, his son, grandsons, relatives and friends.

Tamboville was officially given to squatters and proclaimed an informal housing settlement after negotiations between the Wattville Concerned Residents Committee and the Benoni Town Council earlier this year.

The council has provided water and mobile toilets and although there are not many residents at this stage, the area is extremely clean.

Squatters sang "Tambo has returned" in an emotion-charged ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday afternoon.

Shortly afterwards, Mr Tambo was taken back to Wattville and shown the area marked for his new house in Dube Street. After cutting three more ribbons, a beaming Mr Tambo was rushed to Wattville stadium to be welcomed home.

On Monday Mr Tambo spent the night in nearby Actonville meeting relatives and mingling with local activists. He was taken to Wattville on Monday morning to visit his nephew and other relatives and to meet old friends.

When asked how it felt to be back in Wattville after 30 years in exile, Mr Tambo replied: "Exciting".

At Wattville he was treated to a "traditional lunch". A goat had been slaughtered in his honour the day before.

Mr Tambo's son-in-law, Martin Kingston, told SAPA: "His visit has been very emotional for the whole family."

A close friend and co-treason trialist in 1960, Cleopas Nsibande, said Mr Tambo's health had steadily improved over the past few months. The ANC president suffered a stroke last year, walks with a limp and has to be aided at times.

Mr Nsibande said Mr Tambo had told him he was feeling much fitter in South Africa, adding the climate had helped his health. The 73-year-old ANC president is expected to travel to his birth-town of Bizana in Transkei later this week.

#### 'Might' Be Willing To Meet De Klerk

MB1912064290 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0556 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] president, Mr Oliver Tambo, has said he might be willing to hold talks with State President F.W. de Klerk, reports SABC's Africa desk.

SABC said Mr Tambo told the French news agency, AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, on Tuesday [18 Dec], that should such a meeting take place, it would be arranged by ANC Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela.



**Inkatha Figure Scores Self-Defense Unit Plans**

*MB1812164790 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1239 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 18 SAPA—The ANC's [African National Congress] stated plans to form self-defence committees in the townships were slammed by the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] on Tuesday as "no more than a thin disguise for Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation, ANC military wing] to rebuild its underground terror structures."

The IFP regional leader for the Vulindlela area, Mr David Ntombela, said in a statement that moreover, the African National Congress' self-defence plans for the townships had already been urged by the ANC's Natal-Midlands leaders three months ago.

Mr Ntombela said this weekend's announcement by the ANC and its military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe was therefore met by the IFP's Natal members "with considerable alarm."

He claimed that the ANC-Midlands Chairman Mr Harry Gwala and the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] branches had first mentioned setting up self-defence units in the Pietermaritzburg area in October. Mr Gwala had allegedly issued a concerted call for ANC supporters in the Midlands area to "pay special attention to this task."

**Armcor Will Not Confirm, Deny Space Capability**

*MB1812215490 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1929 GMT 18 DEC 90*

[Text] Cape Town Dec 18 SAPA—Armcor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] on Tuesday declined to confirm or deny that its De Hoop missile testing range was capable of launching satellites or that such a space programme existed following a report in a Cape Town Afrikaans morning newspaper.

A senior spokesman said "in general" Armcor was moving the application of its sophisticated military technology away from warfare towards "peaceful purposes".

Well placed military sources interpreted this as meaning that a satellite programme could be used to enable scientists to more fully study and harness the country's rich natural resources.

The Armcor spokesman, Mr Johann Adler, declined to comment on this interpretation but indicated that he would not invoke the Defence Act which allows him to prevent publication or speculation on defence-related matters.

The Afrikaans newspaper said it had reliably learnt that the Overberg missile testing range at De Hoop had been

"busy for several years developing a peaceful space programme and that a satellite capability was possible "within three years".

It quoted a United Nations report requested of UN secretary-general Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar after intense speculation on whether South Africa had a nuclear capability (and therefore satellite capability).

The initial UN speculation centred on two missiles launched from De Hoop in July last year and on November 19 this year, detected by the Soviets and the United States respectively.

Armcor said later that the missiles, fired in the direction of the Prince Edward Islands about 1450km southeast of South Africa were to qualify the test range.

In his report Mr de Cuellar said South Africa had launched a major initiative to peacefully harness the military technology built up during its "military era".

Military sources said they "very much doubted" whether Armcor would have a satellite capability within three years and described the Afrikaans newspaper report as "intelligent speculation, nothing more".

They said they suspected that the UN report was largely based on information "leaked" by the Department of Foreign Affairs to Mr de Cuellar.

**Survey Finds Readers Would Vote for ANC**

*MB1812105790 Johannesburg THE STAR  
in English 18 Dec 90 p 2*

[Report by Helen Grange: "THE STAR's Readers Would Elect ANC"]

[Text] If a general election was held in the near future among readers of THE STAR the ANC [African National Congress] would come to power.

This is the finding of a survey conducted by Marketing and Media Research into the likes and dislikes, political and otherwise, of a broad cross-section of THE STAR's readers.

According to the survey findings, the majority (over 30 percent) of readers would vote for the ANC over other political groupings.

The National Party [NP] would be close on its heels, but would outstrip the ANC only in the event of a coalition between the NP and the Democratic Party [DP].

About 4 percent of THE STAR's readers are Conservative Party supporters and the remainder of the political parties or organisations (SA Communist Party [SACP], Inkatha, Pan-Africanist Party, [PAC], Black Consciousness, AWB [Afrikaner Movement Resistance], Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] and others) would not receive votes of any significance.

The survey shows that there are more white supporters of Inkatha than black supporters—although total support stood only at 1 percent. There are also more black supporters of the NP than white supporters of the ANC.

The AWB enjoys only 0.3 percent of readers' support.

In gauging how hopeful THE STAR's readers are for South Africa's future, the survey found that 52 percent feel very hopeful while 39 percent are not very hopeful.

A similar survey conducted with readers of THE SOWETAN shows that 59 percent of readers are very hopeful, while 29 percent are not very hopeful.

It is almost certain that since February 2, the day of president de Klerk's landmark reform speech, blacks have become more hopeful about their future, the survey maintains.

Asked how confident they felt about a happy future for all races, readers differed substantially.

White readers were more confident in 1977 about this issue than they are now. However, they are far more optimistic now than in 1986, the climax of their pessimism.

Conversely, the confidence of black readers for a racially harmonious future is higher now than it has been for more than a decade. Black readers showed they were most pessimistic in 1977 and 1985, the height of the P.W. Botha era.

The most important issue to be dealt with, according to readers of THE STAR and THE SOWETAN, is apartheid and the equality of blacks and whites.

Eleven percent of both readership groups believe violence and intimidation are the most crucial issues in securing a hopeful future.

The topic most readers feel they would like to see more of in THE STAR is education.

There is also a demand for more life skills information, according to the survey findings.

White readers still ask for more humour, although this is not a priority for black readers, many of whom see the newspaper as a more serious medium.

#### **'Optimism Outweighs Pessimism' for Nation**

MB1812111590 Johannesburg THE STAR in English  
18 Dec 90 p 17

[Report by Patrick Laurence: "Hope Continues To Raise Its Head"]

[Text] It was a dizzyingly exciting year for South Africa, one in which the people's mood soared with hope one week and plummeted in despair the next.

Standing back, however, it seems that, nearly a year after President de Klerk's venture into the new South Africa, optimism outweighs pessimism.

The state of mind of most South Africans is perhaps best reflected in the metaphorical allusion about the light at the end of the tunnel.

Under Mr. de Klerk's tough-minded, irascible predecessor, P.W. Botha, that light was undoubtedly the oncoming train.

Under Mr. de Klerk it might signal the end of the long journey through darkness.

The year began with a great deal of speculation about Mr. De Klerk's pending speech to Parliament on February 2. Most pundits anticipated that he would announce major changes.

But he surprised even the most seasoned of observers: instead of merely unbanning the United Democratic Front as a prelude to the unbanning of the African National Congress [ANC], he lifted the prohibitions, including the ANC, its ally, the South African Communist Party [SACP], and its implacable foe, the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC].

Mr. de Klerk simultaneously announced that the unconditional release of South Africa's most famous prisoner, Nelson Mandela, was imminent. Nine days later, to the acclaim of the world and the joy of most South Africans, he fulfilled his promise.

In his February 2 speech Mr. de Klerk proclaimed his willingness to negotiate a settlement with black leaders of all political persuasions. The freeing of Mr. Mandela showed he was serious. It gave South Africans hope that an end to the long, bitter conflict was in sight.

The next two stages were marked by the talks in May at Groote Schuur between Mr. de Klerk's Government and the ANC, and in Pretoria in August.

In those four months huge strides were taken. Both sides committed themselves to peace. The ANC agreed to suspend its armed struggle and the Government undertook to release political prisoners and allow the return of exiles.

But progress was slowed by violence. It took two forms: clashes between security forces and crowds, epitomised by the gunning down of 11 black protesters at Sebokeng in March; pitiless conflict between rival black organisations, with the major fighting taking place in Natal between pro-ANC forces and loyalists of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party.

But the March-August setbacks were minor compared to the storm ahead. Fighting again broke out after August. Again it was mainly between ANC-aligned forces and those linked to Inkatha. There were major differences, however.

The epicentre of conflict moved from Natal to townships around Johannesburg, where it assumed a tribal dimension.

In Natal the combatants were nearly all Zulus and battle lines were drawn on ideological criteria. In the Transvaal the conflict was essentially tribal at its cutting edge. The fiercest clashes were usually between Zulu migrant workers and Xhosa-speaking workers.

Hundreds died in savage battles which often pitted the poorest of people against one another.

Thokoza, south-east of Johannesburg, symbolised the situation: It was the scene of bloody fighting between Zulu hostel dwellers and Xhosa squatters.

The causes of the violence are complex and still the focus of much debate.

The ANC blames the security forces, accusing them of inciting Zulu migrant workers against Xhosas and of secretly helping them on the battlefield.

Some observers, however, contend that the ANC's campaign against Chief Buthelezi and the "KwaZulu bantustan," while maintaining a cosy relationship with the Xhosa-speaking "Transkei bantustan," was perceived by many Zulus as anti-Zulu and was thus itself a cause of the violence.

A major generator of the violence, however, appears to have been a sense that power was within the grasp of the black majority. It acted as a catalyst, bringing rivalries to the surface and the rival forces into an arena where the stakes were the highest on offer: power.

Another factor was the apartheid-generated political culture of intolerance, in which opposition forces were seen as foes to be crushed rather than rivals to be opposed according to prescribed rules.

The conflict threw a pall of gloom across the nation, causing even the most sanguine optimists to have second thoughts. The South African Institute of Race Relations calculated that 10 people were dying in political conflict every day, a higher rate of deaths than in any year since the beginning of the township rebellion of 1984.

Those who wanted to dwell on the depressing state of affairs had little difficulty in finding further causes for despair:

- A declining economy—the anticipated economic growth rate for 1990 is, at best, zero,
- A rapidly growing black population, with an alarmingly high proportion of unemployed and alienated young black people,
- And a rising inflation rate.

But there were still grounds for cautious optimism: the relationship between Mr. de Klerk and Mr. Mandela remained friendly, their hold over their followers seemed

to be firm; and the threat to Mr. de Klerk's reformism from the Right appeared to have been contained.

In a by-election in Randburg in November the Conservative Party lost its deposit, while, on the extra-parliamentary front, Piet Rudolph, the Afrikaner zealot who denounced Mr. de Klerk as a traitor and declared "war" on him, was captured and put on trial for terrorism.

The release of political prisoners and the return of exiles was in process, although there was some doubt about whether it would be complete by the April 30, 1991, deadline which Mr. de Klerk's men and the ANC had set. But the fact that it had begun was progress of sorts and a reason for hope rather than a cause for despair.

Against that, however, the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], after appearing to be edging closer to the negotiating table, pulled away at its December conference. The only discussions it would hold with the Government was on the mechanics of holding elections for a constituent assembly. It would only talk to Mr. de Klerk once he acceded to its central demand.

By positioning itself on the radical Left, the PAC could still denounce ANC leaders as "collaborators" for talking to the government. For the present, however, it is holding its fire as the idea of a "united front" of progressive forces gains ground.

As the year draws to a close the prospect of substantive negotiations between the National Party and the ANC for a new constitution remains on the agenda for 1991.

An added plus was the acceptance by all the dominant interlocutors that the foundation to any future constitution would have to be one-person, one-vote on a common voters roll.

The main negotiating parties were, however, shaping up for a major political struggle over the negotiating process.

The ANC, supported by the PAC and the Azanian People's Organisation, was demanding the election of a constituent assembly to draw up anew constitution for South Africa.

They were opposed by Mr. de Klerk's National Party, with the backing of Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party and a whole range of smaller parties.

Even as they tussled over the shape and size of the negotiating table, the main forces were looking ahead to the first post-apartheid election.

The National Party, having opened its ranks to all races, was casting about for coalition partners across the colour-line for its envisaged grand alliance. Mr. de Klerk's constitutional negotiator, Dr. Gerrit Viljoen, boasted towards the end of the year that the proposed alliance could defeat the ANC at the polls.



For its part, the ANC, having long since opened its membership to all South Africans, was campaigning for card-carrying members across the racial spectrum and seeking to establish community-rooted branches in every nook and cranny.

It promised an exciting future election, in which, again, there was justification for cautious sanguinity: the political dividing lines would be determined by ideology, not race.

#### 19 Dec Press Review on Current Problems, Issues MB1912114390

[Editorial report]

#### THE STAR

Warning Against 'Disintegration' of Local Government—"Nearly everyone agrees" that local government, as well as the tricameral parliament "must be discarded," declares Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 December in a page 16 editorial. "A new system, from top to bottom, must emerge from the negotiating table." But local structures "cannot be allowed to disintegrate on their own." Disintegration would "facilitate the descent of townships into anarchy, a development already far advanced in some townships." What is required is a "short-term measure, devised with the help and consent of all interested parties: the provincial administrations, the councillors, the civic associations."

Greater Merit in Transitional Government Proposal—Hennie Lotter, a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at the Rand Afrikaans University, examines in the "Opinion" column on the same page the proposals for a "multiparty conference," or for a "democratically elected constitutional convention." The idea of a multiparty conference faces certain problems: It is "not clear how it will be decided which parties will be invited to take part in negotiations for a new constitution. Would cultural organisations be full participants, as it has already been suggested?" Among other problems would be the status of military leaders at the negotiations, and the question of whether equal votes would be applied to parties or delegates. Therefore, Lotter believes a transitional government "would be more representative than the current one, and a constitutional convention with members who hold no positions of power, would be more fair to all those involved in negotiations—and that is all of us."

#### BUSINESS DAY

Local Forum To Find Workable System—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 December, in a page 6 editorial says the information this week of a local forum involving businessmen and the ANC in the Nelspruit-White River area, following a similar move between business and community groups in Middelburg, is "a sign that people are tired of conflict and determined to find their own solutions if national leaders are unable

to do so." Also, the government's acceptance of the principle of a single municipal tax base is "a striking confirmation that it has broken with institutionalised apartheid." Finding a workable system and how it will be financed is "a task for negotiating teams," and there is "no reason" why such discussions should not start "before full-scale constitutional talks begin."

#### SOWETAN

Concern About Availability of Weapons—The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 19 December is concerned about "the availability of guns, especially combat arms like assault rifles." "We are often surprised by the seeming insouciance of the police concerning the discovery of such guns which are used in political fratricidal warfare and now more and more in ordinary crime. It seems curious that the police do not inform us or the public why it is so easy to get these dangerous weapons."

#### BEELD

Legal 'Plundering' of Land in Zimbabwe—Referring to the "nationalization of white farmers' land in Zimbabwe" Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 14 December in a page 14 editorial states: "It is unacceptable that the greater proportion of land of a country is owned by a minority of citizens—and those of one group. But it is just as immoral to dispossess people of their property through legal plundering." Fortunately South African leaders "still have time to work out the issue of land ownership." South Africa also has the "advantage" of learning from Zimbabwe's experience, "especially if the food production drops because of President Mugabe's action."

Militant Faction Keeps Eye on Mandela—The ANC consultative conference has shown it is "still searching for a new vision, strategy, and clear leadership," notes Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 17 December in a page 12 editorial. "Decades of revolutionary slogans and thinking is not unlearned overnight." ANC President Oliver Tambo, with "realism from abroad, tried to bring a message about sanctions to his organization. But its congress rejected it and voted for the futile—the EC decision to partially lift sanctions is proof of this. Therefore, what can the ANC show for 1990 but wasted energy on lost causes?" "Just as internal 'liberation elements' allegedly manipulated Mr. Nelson Mandela's first speech following his release in February, Mr. Tambo's advice was challenged and rejected. This signals a power play within the organization which allows no group to seep peacefully. Mr. Mandela—as effective leader—knows all too well there is a militant faction (representing the trade unions and their internal structures?) that is keeping an eye on him."

#### DIE BURGER

Youth Misusing Education for Political Purposes—"The lesson has apparently not yet been learned that education

in colored communities should not be misused for political purposes," remarks Cape Town *DIE BURGER* in Afrikaans on 14 December in a page 16 editorial. "This is what it seems like when the National Education Coordinating Committee says it plans mass action for next year to focus attention on, among other things, grievances in black education." The "destructive" result of the campaign under the slogan of "liberation before education" is there for all to see, and "will still manifest itself for a long time in a generation of youths who walk around the streets jobless, embittered, and radicalized. These undisciplined 'wild young lions' are creating problems now for those selfsame organizations that made them a major part of the 'liberation struggle'."

#### \* Future of Chemical Industry Assessed

91AF0328A Johannesburg *FINANCIAL MAIL*  
in English 16 Nov 90 pp 31-33

[Article by Robin Friedland; words in italics as published.]

[Text] Is the chemical industry ready to stand entirely on its own feet, or does it still need government intervention and subsidies? The issue arises once more in a recommendation in the recent report by a working group for the promotion of chemical industry, convened on the initiative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Industry.

In essence, the report proposes temporary government assistance (a "*hupstoot*" or kick-start) to help establish a petrochemical complex to produce large quantities of the full range of intermediate chemicals required to make plastics, rubber and other important products. The complex would probably take the form of a cracker designed to process naphtha—one of the primary products of oil refining. The naphtha itself would have to be imported.

As the plant would be intended to provide raw materials for a new export industry, it would have to be on the coast. It might be a greenfields project at Richards Bay, or a twin to the Mossas conversion plant. A metropolitan location (say, Durban) would raise major environmental issues.

The case for government help to build a cracker is this: though petrochemical plants are capital- and not labour-intensive, availability of intermediates makes it possible to establish downstream industries—mainly plastics fabrication plants—which are highly labour-intensive and theoretically capable of generating large exports.

One detail requires mention: to be worth building, a naphtha cracker of appropriate size would cost around R4bn-R4.5bn [rands], of which government might have to subscribe, at least initially, some R2bn.

The model for this is the indisputable success of Taiwan and other Pacific Rim countries in the Seventies and Eighties on the basis of government assisted naphtha crackers. Establishment of cracking facilities created an

economic "platform" from which Taiwan launched an export drive, flooding the world (in particular the U.S.) with a host of plastic-containing products.

One major SA [Republic of South Africa] chemical company—Sentrachem—expresses unbounded enthusiasm for government assistance to establish a cracker, but there is reason to believe that AECI [African Explosive and Chemical Industries], too, would welcome the opportunities. The new major player in petrochemicals—Engen—might also participate.

The grand simplicities of this idea require many qualifications. First, all would cheer if one or more of SA's chemical giants found naphtha-cracking so attractive they would be prepared to set up the project on their own, using conventional finance. It is the need to commit public money yet again in a petrochemicals project that should arouse the suspicious accountant in all of us.

One reason is historic. Government, for well-known geopolitical reasons, has spent enormous sums of public money to promote self-sufficiency in strategic products. The grandfather of these schemes—Sasol [South African Coal, Oil, and Gas Corporation]—has turned out acceptably from an accounting viewpoint, if not brilliantly. On historic costs, it makes money despite the many billions spent along the way. But the numbers would not look as favourable if the rand had not collapsed at just the right moment in the development of Secunda. And government has realised a considerable proportion of its Sasol stake at a profit, in particular through the flotation of Sasol Ltd.

But that is not the end of the story of government money and the petrochemical industry. Sentrachem and government have had a most unhappy experience with the Newcastle plant for making synthetic polyisoprene ("synthetic natural rubber").

Despite the tremendous technical virtuosity which brought the project to fruition, it has been an economic disaster, costing both government and Sentrachem hundreds of millions, including recent mothballing costs. The plant never more than broke even and a collapse in the natural rubber price finally put paid to the project; a painful reminder that the goal of chemical companies is to make not chemicals, but money.

The latest government commitment to petrochemicals is Mossas. This plunge into the eastern Cape pork barrel will cost, on latest estimates, no less than R9bn, while achieving only a modest output of liquid fuels (say a quarter of Sasol's current output). Sentrachem MD [Managing Director] Johan van der Walt estimates that it would take an oil price of U.S.\$75 a barrel to establish profitability on this aggregate amount (as opposed to Gencor executive director Bernard Smith's calculation of \$20-25 a barrel (real) on the incremental R1.2bn Engen may put in).



Admittedly, Mossas's output of liquid fuels will save foreign currency, but how much social stabilisation (in black housing and other infrastructure) could R9bn purchase? Even within the objective of strategic self-sufficiency, how many barrels of crude oil could this (or even the tranche spent on capital imports for Mossas) have purchased at \$20 a barrel?

The East Asian analogy also requires consideration. Taiwan did not have a comparative advantage in given metals or minerals, so importing raw materials made economic sense and also internal geographical sense. Taiwan is a small island and coastal plants can serve both domestic and foreign markets. Not only that, it suited the U.S. (in terms of resistance to mainland communism) to give free access to its own markets to its East Asian political allies and client states. And Taiwan neither had nor has any problems with access to international supplies of crude oil or derivatives such as naphtha.

Almost everything that favoured Taiwan does not apply to SA [Republic of South Africa], even now. Free access to oil and to U.S. markets do not require comment. But SA does have comparative advantages in mining and processing a whole range of metals and minerals. However good or bad the case for government help for a naphtha cracker, it cannot be as good as that for benefiting ferrochrome, for example—and that is debatable.

There are also two geographical problems. SA's main internal markets are far inland, so optimal location for export is anything but optimal for supplying local fabricators in their present locations (though a large coastal source of intermediates might inspire them to relocate). This means that a coastal chemical complex might be dangerously tied to export markets. And whether SA's international location is particularly favourable for major world markets is also questionable.

The two most important intermediates, ethylene and propylene, are available in substantial amounts from Sasol (which, not surprisingly, is not enthusiastic about the cracker). The working group says Sasol's supply of ethylene will suffice until the mid-Nineties, while propylene as well as polypropylene are also available from Secunda. There is some difference of opinion whether supplies of ethylene could later be augmented from Secunda at comparable cost by using chemical methods over and above simple extraction. Sasol maintains that it can meet needs for ethylene until the late Nineties.

Whatever the answer, it has no bearing on supplies of the "aromatics"—benzene, toluene and xylene. Most of our needs have to be imported, as for another important intermediate, butadiene. (Sasol once ran a small naphtha cracker at Sasolburg but closed it because of unprofitability. Small amounts of aromatics are produced both by Iscor [South African Iron and Steel Corporation] and by Sasol itself in the course of coal gasification).

Mossas will use the same process as Sasol to produce liquid fuels and will equally be able to divert ethylene

and propylene commensurate with its throughput. A recent announcement indicates that various products will be tapped off to increase added value. (Such intermediate chemicals have a higher value as raw materials than as fuel, which is why Sasol has moved increasingly into the chemicals business).

Smith indicates that de-bottlenecking and expansion at Engen's Genref refinery in Durban (costing much less than the touted naphtha cracker) will supply modest additional quantities of ethylene and propylene as well as aromatics. Shell SA may well be doing much the same to its refinery in Durban, which would release further modest quantities of aromatics and butadiene. This suggests the chemical industry will not want for inputs to serve the local market.

It is true, as the report also notes, that SA's chemical industry comprises significantly less than 5 percent of GDP [gross domestic product] against 10 percent in the U.S., western Europe and Japan. But this merely points to a comparative disadvantage, however it has come about, and it may well be that we should accept this, not attempt to fix it through yet more subsidies.

What the report does more constructively is point to the crucial field of taxes, where government itself has tilted the scales against local manufacturers. The report quotes findings by local chemical engineering contractors that a typical chemical plant could be built in SA for about as much as in western Europe if import duties, surcharge and GST [General Sales Tax] were excluded. These add at least 10 percent to the cost of a plant built locally.

The VAT [Value-Added Tax] regime, from the outset, should accept the loss of revenue in allowing an input tax credit for capital equipment, making up the revenue through a higher rate. A phasing-in period for the input tax credit should be rejected. The other taxes and levies should be summarily repealed. We should not need reminding, either, that Gatt accepts remission of VAT on exports, which should help exporters as soon as the switch to the new system of indirect taxation is achieved.

Some sources suggest that there is a hidden agenda in the agitation for government help for a naphtha cracker. Downstream chemical operators, particularly Sentrachem, are deeply concerned that Sasol (and soon, Mossas) are intruding on areas they traditionally regarded as their own, such as polypropylene manufacture.

Their sense of vulnerability is not eased by the fact that Sasol sells ethylene and propylene on a split-price basis: if the intermediate is intended to make products for export, Sasol will sell on a net-back basis calculated from international plastic product prices.

But we cannot allow this to upset our ordering of priorities. It might have been tactful for Sasol to cut the downstream companies in on its polypropylene manufacturing. (It may even now not be too late.) And perhaps some joint venture should be set up for Mossas to absorb by-products from the synthetic fuel process line

and convert them to valuable end-products. That public money built Moss gas makes an arguable case for sharing out the benefits to the entire chemical industry.

We may well not have room for four major chemicals players (Sasol, AECI, Engen and Sentrachem). The answer may be to set up commercial links between Engen and Sentrachem, which have the same ultimate master: Sanlam [South African National Life Assurance Company]. This would create a vertically integrated petrochemicals company. Van der Walt is not unsympathetic to this concept.

Alternatively, if Sentrachem finds competition in plastics hotting up, it could spend more effort on establishing

niche markets. Its generally acknowledged chemical engineering virtuosity should make this easy.

Though plastics is important to AECI, it does have powerful parents in Anglo American and ICI [expansion unknown], as well as enormous niche markets in explosives and now soda ash.

But these are side issues: in the last resort, government must ask whether it could put R2bn to better use than to start another subsidised industry—and one dependent on an imported raw material to boot? Perhaps the answer is to defer any major decisions until the new VAT regime is installed. That alone, if capital goods are correctly treated from the start, might give the chemical industry an unexpectedly strong hupstoot.

## Angola

### Defense Council Meets, Approves Projects 18 Dec

MB1812195590 Luanda Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Communique issued by the Defense and Security Council in Luanda on 18 December—read by announcer]

[Text] The Defense and Security Council [CDS] met today under the chairmanship of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party chairman and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

Among other things, the CDS ratified the project for producing basic medicines. This project had already been approved by the CDS Economic Commission in November. The CDS Economic Commission had recommended then that the Health Ministry request additional financing from Belgium and present a concrete proposal to the CDS.

It should be recalled that this project will be carried out by (Soberi), a Belgian enterprise, over a 28-month period. This project is meant to give the People's Republic of Angola the capacity to produce basic medicines; improve stock [preceding word in English] management methods; help improve distribution; and help train different levels of Angolan personnel in the various medicine production sectors.

The project also provides for the creation of three production units in Luanda, Benguela, and Malange.

Moreover, today's session of the CDS approved the draft statute for teachers other than university teachers; the draft decree establishing the organic statute for the National Rehabilitation Institute, which will help mentally and physically handicapped persons; and the revision of Decree 37/89 on post-graduation [words indistinct].

The CDS also approved three resolutions on the opening of credit lines worth \$3.3 million, 71 million French francs, and 10 million French francs respectively. That money will be used to finance agricultural projects in Malange Province, to rehabilitate power stations in Namibe and Lobito, and to finance other projects.

The CDS also approved the utilization of loans granted by Spain, including one worth \$14 million for the construction of new Angolan People's Television studios.

Finally, the CDS authorized the implementation of the Coca-Cola investment project.

### General Urges To 'Get Ready' for Multipartyism

MB1912074490 Luanda Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] Major General Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matross, acting FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the

Liberation of Angola] chief of general staff, said in Luanda today that the Angolan Armed Forces should get ready for the upcoming multiparty system. He said that moral, civic, and military training will have a new (?meaning) in military structures and (?units).

Maj. Gen. Dino Matross, who was opening the 10th meeting of combat instructors, briefed the participants on the political, economic, and social changes taking place in the country. He said that while peace has not been attained FAPLA units cannot abdicate their honorable duty, namely the fight against the enemy.

It will be recalled that the armed forces combat instructors meeting will analyze activities carried out in 1990 and plan others for 1991. Scheduled to end on 21 December, the meeting is designed to improve the methodology, organization, and planning of combat training. It will equally reorganize the combat and political training directorate responsible for ground forces, as well as increase the level of expertise of its combatants.

### Ivorian Daily Interviews Jonas Savimbi

AB1812185890 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN  
in French 18 Dec 90 pp 21-22

[Interview with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), during a stopover in Abidjan, by Noel Yao; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Yao] You are returning from the United States, where for the first time in 15 years of war you met the Soviet foreign minister. Could you sum up for us the essence of your discussions in Washington, and especially those you had with Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze?

[Savimbi] We believe that the meeting that we held in Washington was very important for several reasons. The first is that the meeting was preceded by meetings between the UNITA delegation (led by myself) and the Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze. That was the first time in all these years of war that the Soviet authorities agreed to meet us. We found Mr. Shevardnadze to be an open man, a man who listens, a man who understands.

Together, we agreed on one point: that once the cease-fire has been signed, a quick move should be made toward holding elections.

The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, has been speaking of a three-year interval. We, for our part, are speaking of 12 months. The Soviets agree that the transition period between the cease-fire and the elections should not be prolonged, and we concur with this.

There were also meetings with the American Government. We met President Bush, who continues to be interested in Angola despite his current preoccupations, notably with the Gulf. What we gathered from the meeting with Mr. Bush is that the two superpowers (the

United States and the Soviet Union), want to end this conflict. I believe that the circumstances are equally favorable. And they also have the means to ensure this.

On 13 December, there was a meeting between UNITA (led by the vice president) and the MPLA represented by Mr. Lopo Nascimento (vice president). That was the first time that high-level officials led the delegations.

The American party was represented by Under Secretary for African Affairs Herman Cohen. The Soviets were represented by Ambassador Yukalov, who is in charge of African affairs, and the Portuguese party by Mr. Montero.

It was thus an important meeting and lasted for five hours. We talked mainly about how we could secure a cease-fire, peace, and the elections.

We came up with five points: The cease-fire must be signed simultaneously with recognition of the political parties and their right to pursue their activities freely. The agreement on the cease-fire should also include the date of elections. We agreed that the elections must be supervised by an international body, and that implies that African countries or others would be able to contribute contingents.

They must be paid. If they are to remain in Angola for three years, that would not encourage them or the international organizations—notably the United Nations—to get involved.

We also told each other that the cease-fire must be safeguarded. After 15 years of war, the cease-fire will not hold for... three years.

Everybody agreed that the period between the cease-fire and the elections must be reduced. We also accepted that even if the Angolans—that is, the MPLA and UNITA—should play a major role in a joint political-military commission, the presence of foreign observers would be required for the elections and the cease-fire.

As only the United Nations has the mechanism, the means, and the structure to do this, it must be approached in this regard. We have thus come to agreement on all that. We believe that for the first time, we have a solid basis to be able to continue discussions with the MPLA in January in Portugal.

We think that unless the unexpected should occur, the MPLA delegation has not rejected or raised objections to these proposals. The only thing is that we for our part would have wanted a document to be signed to define the framework for future talks. But the MPLA representatives said they had not received a mandate from their president for that. We are optimistic about the next meeting and obtaining positive results from it.

[Yao] Is that why you said that the war is over?

[Savimbi] This declaration was made on 5 December. I was then still in Jamba, before I went to the United States. What I had wanted to say is that in fact, the

situation in Angola no longer calls for a continuation of the war. The people as well as the soldiers are tired.

[Yao] It is everybody, then?

[Savimbi] Everybody is tired of the war, even the African countries. Today, if you meet an African head of state and talk to him about peace and the possibilities of making peace, he listens to you. But if you tell him "we have killed bandits," he will no longer listen to you. It follows therefore that from the moral point of view, both in Angola and outside, there is no longer support for war. What is left to be done is to arrive at a cease-fire agreement, recognize parties, and organize elections. Any effort in favor of war will no longer mobilize people.

[Yao] You are therefore insisting that the date for elections be made known or accepted before a cease-fire agreement is signed...

[Savimbi] We insisted on this point in Washington. We said that this is very important for UNITA, for the other political parties that will be formed later, and for the Angolan people.

If they know that within nine or 12 months we will be holding elections, all that we ask the soldiers to do (stop the fighting, the political battle, etc.) will be accepted.

But if you say that there will be elections in... three years, honestly, I repeat that the people who have been fighting for 15 years now will not accept this. They will say that this is not serious. This is what the Soviets, the Americans, and the Portuguese also think.

[Yao] To what do you personally attribute this easing of tension? To the thaw between Moscow and Washington?

[Savimbi] Obviously, this was essential.

But we also think that the wind of democracy that is blowing across the world and especially across Africa cannot leave MPLA members indifferent. As a result, there are requests from the interior of the country. The Third MPLA Congress let some of the critics speak.

In the past, there were things that people were not able to say on similar occasions.

[Yao] What do you say about the fact that the officials of the Luanda leadership have accepted the multiparty system?

[Savimbi] The multiparty system has been accepted. The MPLA officially proclaimed it. The discussions that took place during the congress are not deceiving. There was openness. People attacked the government and criticized corruption; that has never happened before within the MPLA, a party with a Marxist-Leninist ideology.

As you know, from last year up to March 1990, there were attempts by the MPLA to wipe out UNITA militarily, but this has failed. This option was discussed during the congress. Influential MPLA members understood that a military solution is impossible. We have also



not wanted to take power by force. It is not because we cannot do so, but really because we do not want to do so.

The MPLA, which had more equipment, tanks, and aircraft, has come to realize that war can never solve the Angolan problem.

Third, the coming together of the Soviets and the Americans, who have been trying by all possible means to solve the conflict between them, has also played an important role. During the five meetings we had in Portugal, we were neither able to reach an agreement nor make any substantial progress. Now, with the direct appearance of the Americans and the Soviets into the picture for five hours, we have achieved an encouraging result.

[Yao] Will you run for president in the presidential elections?

[Savimbi] If my friends ask me to be our party's candidate, I will freely agree to do so.

#### German Parliamentarian Team Visits Jamba

MB1812175290 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] A team of four German parliamentarians headed by Mr. (Horst Schroeder) from Luneburg, is visiting Jamba. The delegation has come to the capital of freedom to learn about the outcome of the meeting between Dr. Savimbi and Soviet Foreign Affairs Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and recent developments in the peace process, as well as UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] program for an Angola in peace.

Yesterday afternoon, the team toured the Information Secretariat, during which Mr. (Schroeder) was interviewed by Vorgan [Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel].

#### Supports Peace Program

MB1912084290 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0510 GMT 19 Dec 90

[Text] A German parliamentary delegation that was on a visit to Jamba has supported UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] peace program. The delegation was led by (Horst Schroeder) of Luneburg.

In an interview with Vorgan [Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel], (Schroeder) said there was a large similarity between Germany's unification and the Angolan problem. He noted that German's unification was realized in one year and that the same could happen in Angola.

The parliamentarians, who came to Jamba to familiarize themselves with the latest developments in the Angolan

peace process, expressed their country's desire to support Angola with the experience of the Germans' peaceful unification.

The parliamentarians also support UNITA's call to sign a cease-fire and to hold internationally supervised elections in 1991.

#### Mauritius

##### \* Police Training Exercises Discussed

91AF0251A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French  
14 Nov 90 pp 1, 5

[Article signed H.C.: "Police Getting Back Into Shape"; italicized words published in English]

[Text] A large-scale shape-up operation, the so-called "brushing-up exercise," was ordered by the police commissioner, Mr. Bhimsen Kowlessur, and started last week.

The policemen assigned to districts and those belonging to special branches (*Passport, Traffic Branch, Pay Office, and Stores*) will take turns participating in exercises at the Central Station in front of the police commissioner, Mr. Bhimsen Kowlessur.

For instance, this morning under an intermittent rain, the policemen assigned to the North Port Louis district took part in marches with and without weapons and in an antiriot exercise. The antiriot exercise, which did involve some rough stuff, as our picture shows [not reproduced], consisted in repelling an illegal demonstration; it was also performed recently by policewomen. The marches took place under the command of Inspector Ianassee and Sergeants Venkatareddy and Gourdeale.

The goal of the operation, Mr. Bhimsen Kowlessur told us, is to make sure that "the police forces are in good shape and ready for any emergency." As a corollary to this "brushing-up exercise," the police commissioner is undertaking a tour of the police stations and other police departments throughout the island, to make sure that they operate properly. This morning, Mr. Kowlessur was at the helicopter hangar.

Police headquarters are also putting the finishing touches to the police plan of action in the central districts of towns and other densely populated areas in preparation for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The 200 new recruits who have been in training for almost five months at the Beau-Bassin and Vacoas training schools will also participate.

### \* 1990 Inflation Expected To Reach 14 Percent

91AF0236E Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French  
3 Nov 90 pp 1, 4

[Article by Leon Baya: "'Black September' for Households: Greatest Increase in CPI (Consumer Price Index) Since 1980"]

[Text] September was a black month for Mauritian households, with the consumer price index (CPI) going up 6.2 points or 4.4 percent, the biggest increase for a single month since August 1980.

According to the issue of ECONOMIC INDICATORS that came out yesterday, the Gulf crisis had a heavy impact on prices in the third quarter (July to September 1990), with the CPI increasing 10.7 points or 7.9 percent. This is the biggest increase since the third quarter of 1988, when the CPI rose by 8.5 percent.

The quarterly increase was affected by a number of factors, the most important of which were the raising of automobile tariffs, the higher prices for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages that followed the imposition of higher duties on these products, rising oil prices, and a surge in the price of fresh fish and vegetables.

The Central Statistics Bureau notes that the increase in CPI is owing in large part to the hike in automobile tariffs, which raised the index 3.1 points. Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes were responsible for CPI increases of 1.2 and 1.7 points. However, the 40-percent jump in gasoline and kerosene prices added 0.8 and 0.6 points, respectively to the index. Finally, changes in the price of fresh fish and vegetables contributed 0.6 and 0.7 points to the index.

In view of the upward price trend, the Central Statistics Bureau has revised its estimate of 1990 inflation from 12 percent to 14 percent. Last year Mauritius had 12.6 percent inflation. If the Gulf crisis continues, inflation for the current fiscal year (July 1990-June 1991) could be much greater than the 10.7 percent seen in 1989-90.

### \* NTUC Protests High Prices, Low Wages

91AF0236C Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French  
31 Oct 90 p 4

[Article by Dharmanand Dhoocharika: "Skyrocketing Prices Decried"]

[Text] "No more price increases," chanted some 200 supporters of the National Trade Union Council [NTUC] at a midday street demonstration today. They denounced the government's economic liberalization policy and its refusal to adjust wages. According to NTUC president Francis Supparayan, unless the government agrees by the end of the year to a special wage adjustment for employees of the civil service, parastatal bodies, and local communities, the tense labor situation could lead to a serious crisis. A petition demanding a

wage adjustment was forwarded this morning to the prime minister and minister of finance.

The NTUC leaders first assembled at the Marie Reine de la Paix social center before heading toward Jardin de la Compagnie, where those present denounced the government's "autocratic" attitude. "Prices are skyrocketing. The cost of living is very high. I am a father of three. I earn 1,400 rupees a month. Do you think I can provide for their future on such a small wage?" said one of the posters brandished by demonstrators.

The latter then held a sit-in at the Jardin de la Compagnie to protest nonpayment of interim wage increases. The angry workers also demanded strict controls on the price of various staples.

The trade union leaders discussed current problems, including inflation, skyrocketing prices, governmental incompetence, the poor condition of public transport, the price of vegetables, meat, fish, etc.

In a statement to MAURICIEN, Mr. Supparayan reiterated his demand for an early wage adjustment.

"Our demand for a 19-percent wage adjustment is completely justified. This demonstration attests to the widespread unhappiness of consumers about the price increases. It is totally false to claim that the increased price of staples is a consequence of the Gulf crisis," he said.

### \* SMF Initiates Fuel Conservation Measures

91AF0235A Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French  
30 Oct 90 p 5

[Article by Harish Chundunsing: "Two 'Dry Days' Per Week Decreed"]

[Text] The pump operators in the Special Mobile Force (SMF) have been given orders not to fill garrison vehicles with fuel on two days of each week.

This decision was made by the general staff of the SMF in response to the energy-saver campaign initiated by the government in order to save on energy in the wake of the Gulf crisis. An officer of high rank in the SMF explained to LE MAURICIEN that the two "dry days" will be scheduled on the basis of the commitments of the SMF, and thus will not work to the detriment of state security or other services.

On the other hand, according to information obtained at government headquarters, the office of the prime minister is reported to have frozen the weapons and ammunition item in the SMF budget, for which the allocation was only 25 million rupees.

In fact, a meeting between the general staff of the SMF and officials in the office of the prime minister has been scheduled for next week to discuss the budget cuts decided on in the wake of the Arab-Persian crisis.

**\* French Accord for More Agricultural Aid Signed**  
*91AF0308B Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French*  
*20 Nov 90 p 4*

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Mr. Jean-Claude de L'Estrac, appealed for broader cooperation in the area of agriculture yesterday as he signed an agreement with France, the first to be signed by him. While emphasizing that France is foremost "among our foreign partners," the minister added that he was aware of the aid already provided by France in this field, for which Mauritius is profoundly grateful.

Responding to the minister's diplomatic appeal, France's ambassador, Mr. Philippe Coste, pointed out that certain aspects of French aid to Mauritius are not sufficiently made known. He indicated that his country contributes considerably to agriculture through the EEC in that France contributes 18 percent of the Community's budget which, he stated, provides financing for the "Sugar Protocol."

Let it be said in passing that this point of view is contested by some specialists in the field. A minister-adviser pointed out to us that the sugar protocol is a purely commercial agreement and is totally independent of multilateral and bilateral aid policy.

The financing agreement that was signed by Mr. Jean-Claude L'Estrac and Mr. Philippe Coste involves a contribution of 9.9 million rupees to the agricultural diversification program

This project, which has been granted a French contribution of 3.5 million French francs (9.9 million rupees), is part of the agricultural diversification program. [as published]

According to Mr. Jean-Claude de L'Estrac, national objectives have been clearly identified. They are:

- (1) to pursue the efforts undertaken to increase agricultural output with the goal of self-sufficiency in food, to ensure the uninterrupted supply of food to the nation, and to reduce imports;
- (2) to promote the production of high-value added agricultural products, particularly for exportation, so as to expand the role of agriculture in the national economy; and
- (3) to introduce new crops that can advantageously supplement sugarcane.

This project is regional in scope, having been drawn up following exchanges of information and experience between tree growers of Reunion and Mauritius.

The program to develop the cultivation of fruit calls for raising the production of such fruit as citrus fruits, pineapples, litchis, passion fruit, and papayas to 17,600 metric tons per year by the end of a 10-year period.

The current project has two specific goals:

- (1) to offer technical and scientific support for the fruit cultivation development program in the following areas: the provision of quality plant stock for propagation in all of the island's nurseries, pest control, and the popularization and dissemination of techniques through agricultural extension services aimed at planters and technicians; and
- (2) to design and set up a full-fledged fruit cultivation support network—the training of tree growers and of others involved in the sector, the strengthening of regional cooperation in marketing and promotion, and relations with the banking system.

The agreement, which is to be implemented over a three-year period, will make available the services of a technical assistant for three years and those of expert missions as required by the project; it will make possible the training of Mauritian agricultural technicians, the equipping of nurseries for plant propagation, and the purchase of supplies, plants, grafts, and seeds for nurseries.

## Mozambique

### Foreign Minister Receives Kuwaiti Delegation

*MB1812172990 Maputo Domestic Service*  
*in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Dec 90*

[Text] A Kuwaiti delegation has arrived in Maputo, probably to seek support for its cause. The delegation led by ('Abd al-Sumahir) was received by Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi in Maputo today.

During the meeting, Dr. Pascoal Mocumbi said that Mozambique is currently experiencing far-reaching political and economic changes. He said that a new Constitution came into effect on 30 November providing for the establishment of other political parties. Foreign Minister Dr. Pascoal Mocumbi went on to say that these political parties must be established and work under an atmosphere of order and stability. He added that Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] will continue to fight for national unity. The Kuwaiti delegation is visiting Maputo at a time when Iraq continues on in Kuwait, which it invaded and annexed last August.

Dr. Mocumbi referred to the intense efforts by the Government of the Republic of Mozambique to restore the much-desired peace in the country. Another round of negotiations between the Mozambican Government and Renamo is expected to take place in Rome tomorrow [as heard—talks scheduled to start 18 Dec]. During the last session, the two parties reached a partial agreement which, according to the foreign minister, establishes greater trust for continued talks until a total peace is achieved.

The minister said: As we continue to fight for peace, we are broadening our institutions and reinforcing democracy. Likewise, we are equally engaged in economic battle, despite the unfavorable international situation enow worsened by the Gulf crisis. Dr. Mocumbi said that

following the introduction of the Economic Rehabilitation Program, the Mozambican Gross Domestic Product experienced an annual growth of 4.5 percent. Dr. Mocumbi said however that this growth is now being seriously jeopardized.

On South Africa, the minister said that the system of apartheid still continues despite the reforms of President Frederick de Klerk who, he said, has been holding negotiations with the African National Congress. Minister Pascoal Mocumbi praised these negotiations. He however expressed concern over increasing conflicts between blacks. He said these conflicts are fomented by people who are not interested in seeing the system of apartheid come to an end.

On the same occasion, the Kuwaiti delegation spoke of the historical reasons for the conflict with Iraq which, by invading and annexing Kuwait, created a delicate situation not only for this country but for the whole world, particularly the developing nations. One of the effects of this crisis is the quick rise of fuel prices on the international markets.

The Kuwaiti delegation also believes in a peaceful solution to the crisis and stresses that the restoration of peace depends on Iraq and not Kuwait.

Earlier, the Kuwaiti delegation was received by the minister of justice.

### Deputies Approve Articles of Parties Law

*MB1912104090 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 0800 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Correspondent Galiza Matos report from the Fourth Congress Hall in Maputo]

[Text] The Assembly of the Republic's first session proceedings resumed at about 0900 this morning. The deputies immediately and unanimously approved Article 10 of the Draft Law on Political Parties. This article monopolized most of the debate yesterday. It was approved with amendments proposed by a number of deputies, including Sergio Vieira and Hipolito Patricio. Accordingly, with regard to party activity, Article 10 now reads:

1. A party will be able to fully and legally carry out its activities after its registration and promulgation as referred to in previous articles.
2. After a party has been registered and whenever irregularities are observed, it will be notified of the same and be given 30 days to deal with these from the date of notification.
3. If a party fails to deal with irregularities within the deadline, the Ministry of Justice will notify the Department of Public Prosecutions [Ministerio Publico], which may in turn solicit the high court to suspend its activities until it abides by the law.

Meanwhile, the deputies have already approved Articles 11, 12, and 13.

In Article 13, a chapter stating that only citizens aged 21 and older can be party leaders was removed at the suggestion of Deputy Sergio Vieira. Sergio Vieira maintained that it was not proper to prevent parties from having younger people in their leadership bodies.

Deputies are currently debating at length Article 14, which speaks of the rights of political parties, particularly its Paragraph H, which states that political parties can establish social organizations. Deputy Augusto Macamo spoke against this right, arguing that the country's Constitution already stipulates that citizens have a right to establish social organizations. President Chissano supported Deputy Macamo's view.

The deputies continue to debate the rights and responsibilities of political parties.

### Renamo Fails To Capture Nampula Capital

*MB1912111690 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Dec 90*

[Text] The Mozambique Armed Forces thwarted a Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] attempt to capture the Murrupula District capital in Nampula Province today. During clashes which took place from 0400 to 0700, our forces killed 35 armed bandits and captured two others. The Mozambique Armed Forces also captured 21 light and heavy weapons.

This is Renamo's second attempt to capture a district capital in Nampula Province in less than one week. Last Saturday [15 Dec] our forces thwarted an attempt to occupy Lalaua and killed at least nine bandits and captured one collaborator.

### \* Consulting Company Formed With Sweden

*91AF0255A Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese  
6 Nov 90 p 3*

[Text] A new association named VISAL—Viak Southern Africa, Ltd.—was formed Saturday in Maputo, as a Mozambican-Swedish joint venture to develop consulting activities in various areas, particularly multidisciplinary engineering.

The partners in the joint venture are Proinvest (Projects, Investments and Consulting, Ltd.), based in Maputo, and a Swedish business group constituted by the Swiss companies Viak, Ltd. and BO Sedin Consultants, Ltd., and also consultant Dr. Kent Jergman.

VISAL will initially be capitalized at 100 million meticals, distributed as follows: Viak, Ltd. - 55 million meticals (in convertible currency); Proinvest - 25 million meticals; BO Sedin Consultants, Ltd. - 10 million meticals (in convertible currency); and Dr. Kurt Jergman - 10 million meticals (in convertible currency).



The aim of the newly formed joint venture is to engage in specialized consulting activities, particularly in areas of multidisciplinary engineering, including economic studies and studies of business performance and development projects.

In conducting its activities, the new company will focus particularly on energy alternatives and industrial development, problems of transport and communications, sanitation systems and environmental protection, the investigation of water resources and water supply, both for human consumption and for industrial and agricultural use, urbanization and regional planning, the elaboration of charts and maps, and topographic surveys for the most varied purposes.

In addition to the Mozambican market, VISAL will be active in the southern zone of Africa, relying on the enormous technical capability and experience of the companies which it comprises, whose world reputation is confirmed in several countries and continents.

In its activities in Mozambique, the association will combine the use of international consultants with the nascent Mozambican experience in this activity; it will also train young Mozambican technicians from the university and other local centers of learning.

In view of the shortage of consultants in developing countries, VISAL will not only provide the country with the modern techniques needed for development but will also make an important contribution to the training of technical cadres.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Proinvest president Inocencio Matavele said that, given the present economic, social, and political environment in Mozambique, the creation of a joint venture might appear at first sight to be merely a "business" exercise, but in practice it is much more than this.

"The technical-scientific capability and lengthy experience of the companies involved in VISAL create conditions of technical and commercial credibility and excellent conditions for work in Mozambique and outside its borders in international competition," Matavele stressed, adding that this same capability also guarantees the gradual and effective transfer of "know-how" to the Mozambican partner, a factor which is considered an important element of this joint venture.

The Management Council of VISAL, in accordance with the statutes, named Dr. Kent Jergman as executive director of the company. Jergman holds a doctorate in technology and was trained in civil engineering, specializing in geology.

Carolina Manganhela, notary of the Second Notary Office of Maputo, proceeded to read the document formalizing the constitution of the new company.

Attending the ceremony were a number of individuals connected with the business sector. Other prominent guests included Adriano Malejane, vice president of the

Bank of Mozambique, and Alberto Massavanhane, ambassador of the People's Republic of Mozambique in Sweden.

#### **\* Measures Taken To End Currency Black Market**

91AF0255B Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese  
2 Nov 90 p 12

[Article by Alexandre Chiure]

[Text] The Mozambican Government has just taken economic measures to combat the black market in foreign exchange, whose dealers are proliferating in the country's major cities, specifically in Maputo, Beira, and Nampula. The measures consist in the creation of a secondary exchange market.

The secondary market has already gone into operation, in a first phase, in Maputo, the nation's capital, with the opening of three counters at separate points in the city.

Enear Comiche, governor of the Bank of Mozambique, told journalists that, in conjunction with macroeconomic policy measures, the purpose of this innovation by the government is to absorb the business conducted on the currency black market.

In the new process, the rate of exchange is freely determined by the supply and demand in foreign currencies, instead of reflecting the imposition of administrative controls. The transactions are conducted between authorized dealers and the public.

According to a ministerial decree published in Maputo, the currencies which may be exchanged or sold in the secondary exchange market are dollars, pounds, francs, marks, escudos, and rands.

The governor of the Bank of Mozambique said that the basic principles which are being observed in this market are that there will be no enquiry into the origin of the foreign currency that is being traded and that the price will be determined by the market itself.

According to Comiche, the operations for the exchange or sale of foreign currencies in said market have the advantage of reduced administrative costs and offer the necessary conditions for the growth of an efficient market that provides a service to business concerns.

Comiche said the establishment of the secondary market is seen by the Mozambican public as a timely measure and one that will satisfy the demand for foreign currency that is not met by the official market, for tourist travel abroad or trips for medical reasons, educational, scientific, or cultural purposes, business trips, and imports. The market will be extended to the other nine Mozambican provinces to the extent that interested parties apply for operator's licenses, primarily banking establishments, hotels and tourist institutions, companies and individuals who meet the necessary requirements for conducting this type of business.

From what we have heard, Mozambican businessmen and the public in general are receptive to this government measure, although there are those who are doubtful about the possibility of eliminating the black market in foreign currency.

The first experiment undertaken by the Mozambican Government in the battle against illegal dealers in foreign currencies, particularly the dollar and the rand, was the creation of SOCIEF (Association of Investments and Financial Studies); however, for reasons associated with poor management, it was a failure.

Until very recently, the dollar and the rand were going for about 2,500 and 9,500 meticals, respectively, on the black market. The principal buyers were merchants who later used the foreign exchange to import foodstuffs and other items in great demand in the Mozambican market.

#### \* Copra Production Drop Due to Falling Prices .

91AF0255C Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 7 Nov 90  
p 3

[Article by Augusto Helio]

[Text] The production and marketing of copra in Zambezia Province are registering one of the greatest declines of all time, as a result of the drop in the international market price of copra, which in recent years has gone from \$700 to only \$140 per ton. For example, during last year, from all sectors of production, the province obtained only 12,000 tons of copra, or about half the annual rate recorded up to 1978, NOTICIAS learned from Goncalo Ferrao, president of the Association of Copra Producers in that area of the country.

Information obtained by NOTICIAS from various parties involved in copra production and marketing in that province indicate that the drop in the foreign market price was owing to the increase in sales of other edible oil crops on the international market, such as soybeans and peanuts, produced in several countries.

They added that if the price of \$700 per ton were maintained on the domestic market, the price paid to the producer would be more than double the present price, which varies between 100 and 115 meticals per kilogram.

The president of the Zambezia Copra Producers' Association said the family sector is suffering most from the effects of the drop in prices, because their production is not placed directly on the international market; they depend on the purchase of their copra by middlemen.

"With the drop in foreign market prices, the price paid to the family farmers and other copra producers came to vary from 100 to 115 meticals per kilogram. Well, this is not enough to cover the cost of production. As an immediate result, many producers have abandoned the activity," Goncalo Ferrao explained.

Arrume Mussa is one of the large dealers in the private copra marketing sector in Macuse, Namacurra District.

Speaking with this newspaper, Mussa said the family sector is holding huge quantities of copra which has been awaiting sale for several months and is in great danger of spoiling.

The informant said the reason for this is that none of the wholesalers in Macuse is selling copra to the retailers, which has further threatened the livelihood of the family producers.

Arrume Mussa said that the war situation, which is particularly bad in the area of Macuze, has aggravated the problem of marketing the copra, which has been piling up for some time, thus tying up capital.

The source added that in the Macuze area, the copra producers are struggling with the shortage of cash to buy essential items, although they are holding large quantities of copra which, before the drop in international market prices, would have guaranteed them some financial independence.

"I personally have about 300 tons of copra in warehouses in Macuze, which I have not been able to sell since the beginning of this year. To avoid losing it, the solution would be to sell it all to the large dealers at the cost at which it was purchased from the family farmers."

Arrume Mussa said that, as an illustration of the negative effects of the drop in international prices on copra production and marketing in the province, Macuze currently has only one retailer, as against more than 10 who had been selling copra during the last two years.

#### Storm Affected Crop

In addition to the family sector, Zambezia Province has four large units devoted to the production and exportation of copra; namely, the Boror, Zambezia, and Mudal companies and the Agricultural Enterprise of Murroa. Last year their production was also seriously affected by the tropical depression "Filao," which destroyed part of the palm groves.

According to Carlos Jassen, provincial director of planning in Zambezia, the storm was a significant factor in reducing copra production last year to the lowest level in recent times.

Jassen noted that, given the condition of the palms remaining after the storm, it was impossible to harvest the coconuts immediately, because most of the attention was concentrated on saving the palm trees, many of which were no longer firmly rooted in the ground.

This reporter learned that in one of the areas belonging to the Zambezia Company, thousands of palm trees have been reduced to mere trunks sticking up out of the ground, without any foliage, as a result of the storm.

Thus the drop in copra prices on the international market and the appearance of hurricane "Filao" prevented the province from meeting last year's production quota of about 30,000 tons of copra. Only 12,000 tons were harvested.

#### \* Drought Jeopardizes Gaza Rice Production

91AF0255D Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese  
5 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] The lack of rainfall in Gaza Province in recent times seriously compromised rice production in the last agricultural campaign in that area of the country. The situation was aggravated by the shortage of water for irrigation, as a result of some construction works on the Massingir dam. The information was offered in Gaza during a recent session of the Provincial Coordinating Council for Agriculture, which, among other things, took an accounting of the activities conducted in the sector during the last campaign and planned others for the next campaign.

During the meeting, which was directed by Roberto Lumbela, provincial director of agriculture in Gaza, it was reported that about 22,000 tons of rice were harvested during the last agricultural campaign.

This figure, which falls far short of the real production potential of the region and does not even meet the needs of the population in the area, comes to only about 47 percent of the record harvest of 47,000 tons which was achieved in the 1986/1987 campaign and which has been a memory for the last five years.

Besides the drought and the shortage of irrigation water, other factors contributing to the poor rice harvest in Gaza Province included the failure to comply with production plans and the plagues of rats, birds, and locusts, as mentioned during the Council session.

By way of illustration, a document presented during the meeting indicates that, of 12,000 some hectares scheduled for planting during the last campaign, only 11,692 hectares were cultivated. It adds that, of these, it was possible to grow rice on only about 9,000 hectares, each of which yielded a little more than two tons of rice.

On the subject of the plagues, which seriously affected the irrigated zones in Xai-Xai, Chibuto and Guija districts, the report noted that the situation was aggravated by the shortage of government funding to combat them, although some action was taken using local resources, which contributed to the eradication of about 11 million rats in the three locales.

#### Indiscriminate Slaughter of Cattle

Meanwhile, the indiscriminate slaughter of cattle and the prolonged drought were pointed out during the meeting as the principal factors threatening the survival of the herd, which was estimated at 242,344 head four years ago and is now estimated at 195,000 head.

This figure, which—as noted during the meeting—represents a reduction of about 19 percent, could continue to decline unless measures are taken to curb the situation, which is currently characterized by the theft and illegal transference of cattle, primarily to Maputo City.

In addition to agricultural production and the indiscriminate slaughter of cattle, other topics discussed at the provincial agricultural meeting included the distribution and use of land. As noted at the meeting, land disputes are currently occurring primarily over the fertile land located along the Limpopo Valley.

In discussing this issue, the participants recommended that the standards for the distribution and use of land should be observed and that the directorates of agriculture at various levels in the province should play a primary role in seeing that they are.

#### \* Carbomoc Experiencing Coal Export Crisis

91AF0255E Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese  
6 Nov 90 p 8

[Excerpt] Anyone who travels to the production zone of Carbomoc [Mozambique National Coal Company] may observe "in situ" the crisis afflicting this large Mozambican mining enterprise. Although the company is not producing up to capacity, the traveler will see mountains of coal ready for export at any time, or else for grading. The situation is the result of the destruction of the rail line that links Moatize to the Mozambican port of Beira, which has led to the cancellation of the coal exports that, as is known, bring in large revenues for the country in foreign exchange.

The crisis has also forced the company to rescale its labor force, which process culminated last month in the layoff of 374 of the 1,361 workers who, until then, constituted the total manpower of the company.

Carbomoc is currently operating only two mines, namely, Chipanga 4 and 8, the production from which is going basically to supply some Mozambican production units. According to the general director of Carbomoc, to date there is no agreement stipulating the amount of coal to be supplied to Malawi. [passage omitted]

"At this time, Malawi is the only country which is importing Mozambican coal, in quite insignificant quantities and [shipped] only by highway," Luis Jossene noted.

Carbomoc currently has a fleet of thirty-three 40-ton trucks, which distribute a tiny part of the coal from Moatize to the zones where it is needed. However, transporting coal by highway has proved to be inefficient, because the trucks are obliged to travel through Zimbabwean territory to reach the port of Beira, the only route to the sea.

The company's fuel consumption, not including the transportation of coal destined for export, comes to



between 300,000 and 400,000 liters annually, Luis Josene explained to NOTICIAS.

To rescale Carbomoc's existing labor force, the company management recently completed the process of cutting back the number of employees, laying off 374 workers, who will continue to receive 50 percent of their wages.

This manpower readjustment at the Mozambican coal enterprise is one of a series of measures taken to confront the crisis at Carbomoc, which is not exporting as much coal as desired because of the difficulty of transporting the coal from Moatize to the port of Beira.

## Namibia

### 'Confidential Report' Warns on Economic Problems

MB1812092290 Windhoek *TIMES OF NAMIBIA*  
in English 14 Dec 90 pp 1, 2

[Report by Chris Coetzee: "Confidential Report—Economy Heading for Trouble"]

[Text] Late last night a confidential document, bearing the stamp of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, was delivered at the offices of THE TIMES. The document, titled "Assessment of the Namibian Economy," painted a rather bleak future for the economy. From the textual evidence, the report was presumably submitted by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In the same envelope, THE TIMES received a second document, "Background to investors in Namibia." This document, prepared by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, contradicted the first, point by point. A comparison between the two documents will appear in Monday's [10 Dec] TIMES.

Although the first report attempted at various stages to soften its blows, it predicted that "there will be no rush to invest in Namibia in 1991."

The report, in general terms and in detail, refutes the rosy picture which the Ministry of Trade and Industry painted to prospective investors in the "Background to investors."

The Namibian economy was characterised by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry as "too independent on its primary sector and exports to the competitive world markets [sentence as published]. It is, therefore, gravely affected by the slowdown in world economic growth which had been going on for the last two to three years."

From the report by Commerce and Industry, however, it is clear that the world slowdown is not blamed for all the ills of the Namibian economy: It appeared that the economy was adrift, without governmental guidelines or certainty about official governmental policy.

The only immediate aim was to survive, at all costs. In an attempt to help the government to steer the economy, certain concrete recommendations were to be made. It is

now up to the government either to accept or to reject the recommendations. It was, from the report, a matter of swim or sink.

In every respect, the economic trends showed a downward tendency, while it was to be seen whether the government would implement the rectifying measures proposed by the business community.

Wage demands were shown to account for a substantial percentage of the economic slump. Unless unrealistic wage demands could be curbed, it was clear from the document that many companies could face winding up.

The report reads, "The position since 1989 has been aggravated by tendencies in the labour market, partly influenced by trade union activity, partly by socio-political factors.

"This has resulted in an erosion of the work ethic and lowering of the already low level of productivity prevailing formerly."

But the report saw little improvement for the future, as Commerce and Industry continued in the present tense, "The instability in the labour market will hurt the economy considerably as it is accompanied by an unheard of and almost unstoppable increase in stealing on the job, which has poisoned employer/employee relations and necessitated a tremendous increase in security costs."

The government was to be blamed, outright, for its inability or unwillingness to maintain public law and order, according to the document.

The report, conscious of the fact that these issues would bedevil investment, appeared to force a government decision on the workplace. The investment code was unaccompanied by a labour code, while the investor would like to see both. This was implied by the Commerce and Industry report.

Although the government claimed that the tourism industry was back to normal, the report indicated otherwise. It claimed, surprisingly in the light of the government's claims, that it established an overall decline in tourism reaching 30 percent since independence. Equally surprising was the finding that the informal sector of the economy grew, not due to governmental encouragement, but "was growing out of sheer necessity of the people involved, realising that they must do their own thing to survive."

The report said "our economy is burdened by an unduly costly governmental structure which has resulted in an inadequate level of capital expenditure to strengthen the economic infrastructure.

"In consequence," the report said, "little disposable income remains in the hands of John Citizen and the business world."

It was looking forward to a more efficient, cost-effective public service. It then, however, concluded euphemistically, that "so far we are disappointed, as the trend seems to be in the opposite direction, seemingly with inadequate regard for affordability or productivity."

**ANC, PAC Receive 2.6 Million Rand From Fund**

MB1812122090 Windhoek *THE NAMIBIAN* in English  
13 Dec 9 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Large Slice of the Cake for ANC, PAC]

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa and the Pan-Africanist Congress received a total of R[and]2.6 million last year from the Africa Fund while Frontline States got R1,092,000.

NAMPA reported that a document circulated at the current meeting of the Fund showed that the African National Congress had requested assistance in cash of R3.75 million.

"The members noted that the ANC was going through a crucial stage in its history as a liberation movement. It also had no access to a treasury of its own.

"Keeping in view the urgent requirements of the ANC, the sub-committee decided to allocate a sum of R2,080,00 to it," the report said. The sub-committee also considered a request from the PAC which was also revised.

"The members observed that the entire amount requested by the PAC could not be accommodated out of the Fund's cash resources. The meeting nevertheless appreciated the necessity to assist the PAC and decided to allocate R520,000."

Namibia, on the basis of its request, received R2,080,000 while the rest of the six Frontline States received a total of R1,092,000.

Namibia is also likely to receive a cash payment of R65,000 to lighten the financial burden of hosting the seventh Senior Officials meeting of the Africa Fund.

The Fund is also considering making a cash donation of R130,000 to the Commonwealth Secretariat for the implementation of several of its projects in Mozambique.

**Zambia**

**Botha, Kaunda Begin Talks in Lusaka 18 December**

MB1812162890 Johannesburg *Domestic Service*  
in English 1500 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, has reiterated the government's commitment to the total eradication of apartheid.

Speaking at the start of talks with the Zambian president, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda in Lusaka, Mr. Botha said the

process of dismantling apartheid had reached an irreversible stage. He paid tribute to Dr. Kaunda for the role he had played in the Namibian independence process and for the role he continued to play in seeking peaceful solutions to regional conflicts. Dr. Kaunda praised President de Klerk for the steps he had taken to make South Africa more democratic and said he openly supported President de Klerk's reform initiatives.

Dr. Kaunda said he was convinced that the South African government was fully committed to the reform program.

**\* Survey of Economic Situation: Oil Hikes Blamed**

**\* 40 Percent Interest Rate**

91AF0289A Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
19 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] The Bank of Zambia has hiked all bank interest and modified the market exchange rate to boost exports and arrest the galloping inflation.

With immediate effect the market exchange rate which was fixed at K40 [kwacha] to one American dollar will now be allowed to fluctuate and from yesterday it was pegged at K40.75.

The bank rate has been increased from 29 to 34 percent while the maximum lending rate of commercial banks has risen from 35 to 40 percent, Bank of Zambia governor Mr Jacques Bussieres announced in Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Bussieres said the Gulf crisis and the recent perks awarded to public service workers have had an adverse impact on the economic readjustment programme and contributed to the rising inflation.

"To survive we have to introduce these measures to encourage import substitution," he said at a Press briefing attended by media heads.

But peasant and small-scale farmers would get a concessional rate of 37 percent, though time deposit rates will vary according to the period of the deposits.

The one-year Government bonds issued since December 1989 would carry 9.5 percent interest points instead of six percent over the ruling treasury bill rate.

The treasury bill rates have shot up from 25 to 30.5 percent in the new measures.

With the revised treasury bill rate bonds would now be paid at 40 percent a year.

"In cases where Government bonds have already been issued, the bond holders will be eligible for interest payment at the new rate for the remaining maturity period."

The bank had to decide on a preferential lending rate for peasant and small-scale farmers to assist them. The

facility would also apply to small-scale entrepreneurs as dictated by the credit scheme.

The market exchange rate would also with "immediate effect" crawl as was the case with the official exchange rate.

The Bank of Zambia had to take these measures because of the recent developments like the Gulf crisis which had led to a sharp rise in fuel prices and a spiral of other increases.

The inflation rate which had come off to about 35 percent during the first half of the year had suddenly accelerated in the last few months.

"This rise has been caused in part by the large increases in salaries and wages including housing allowances in virtually all sectors of the economy," said Mr Bussieres.

He added: "The revival of inflationary pressures has increased domestic costs and has reduced the profitability and competitiveness of exports."

This development has, however, endangered the success of the export drive and the diversification of the economy away from copper.

Unless measures were taken to arrest inflation rate investment ventures would decline and the implementation of the economic adjustment programme would be jeopardised.

Mr Bussieres said the central bank had so far released, through commercial banks, K930 million to pay farmers for the crop and incentives.

The last disbursement of K200 million was made on 1 October. He also announced that Government had paid K390 million subsidy which would go into boosting the farming sector.

On the introduction of the K100 note, he said authorities were working on the design. The bank had ordered more K50 notes adding that there were enough K1 coins.

Reacting to the BOZ [Bank of Zambia] measures, the Zambia Confederation of Industries and Chambers of Commerce (ZCICC) said they would force some companies out of business as money would become more costly.

ZCICC acting chief executive Mr Bernard Chisanga said in Lusaka the BOZ motive to try to reduce inflation was understood but the central bank should also look at the production effect in industry.

"This will definitely slow down production levels. In fact it is doubtful whether most firms will survive."

The measures had come at a wrong time, he said adding that there should be a proper balance between the steps taken to reduce money flow and those designed to boost production.

### \* Interest Rates Dim Future

91AF0289B Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
19 Oct 90 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] The severe economic situation already prevailing in the nation is bound to get harsher with the new measures announced yesterday by the Bank of Zambia.

A wide spectrum of economic activity has been directly touched, but the net will spread wider than that. At the end of the day, the victim at the end of the rope—the consumer—will be saddled with most of the costs. This is the hard reality.

While the bank and maximum lending rates have shot up, encompassing the treasury bill rates as well, the Government bonds carry unattractive interest even though this has been revised upwards from six percent to 9.5 percent.

There may not be sufficient incentive for purchasers here, thereby diminishing deposits in the treasury. That lessens the investment base.

Although the interest rates on savings accounts balances have been revised upwardly from 23 percent to 27 percent, the painful scenario has pointed towards the inability of savers to do so because of a constricted economy in the past.

The increase in this sector may thus remain a vacuum unfulfilled. If this reads like a catalogue of negative development, it is only because the effects of economic strapping continue to follow a pattern that takes a semblance to swallowing the bitter pill for economic restructuring.

The high interest rates will certainly bring about a chain reaction. These may cripple some companies, many of which depend on this vital facility not only in times of liquidity squeeze, but even during fair economic breezes.

In all these adversities, the parastatal, that species which survives so much on the overdraft for injections of new leases of life will come in for further hammering with its traditional vulnerability.

Unless some new remedies are sought by those quasi-Government institutions that are not so viable, they are headed for oblivion.

The central bank authorities have explained that recent developments in our economy necessitated these measures. Is this a graphic lesson that huge salary increments and hefty allowances may not be the ideal solution to the galloping inflation?

How does the nation then solve the nagging unaffordability of commodities by the populace while shops are full of goods to the brim?

These are questions that all sectors of the Zambian society will have to tackle headlong even as our currency exchange rate starts to crawl from the latest peg of K40.75 [kwacha].

#### \* Workers Unpaid

91AF0289C Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English  
16 Oct 90 p 7

[Text] Katete and Choma district councils have failed to pay workers salaries while about 200 Livingstone district council employees have threatened to down tools over non-payment of housing allowance arrears.

Katete district council executive secretary, Mr Felix Mfula confirmed in an interview yesterday that his council had not paid workers their September salaries because it had no money.

Mr Mfula said his council was unable on its own to meet the K600,000-plus [kwacha] salary bill, but the decentralisation division had promised to come to the council's aid by the end of this week.

Authorities at the civic centre in Livingstone said the council had money to pay housing allowance arrears to all affected employees.

District executive secretary, Mr Ferdinand Mwanza told Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) officials that the money would be paid tomorrow.

All the three councils said the problem had been compounded by the recently increased housing allowances for civil servants and Government workers.

Salary and wage bills for the councils soared beyond their revenue earning capacities, squeezing further the already financially unstable local authorities.

Mr Mfula disclosed that there was a serious water problem in the district but because of financial problems his council could not rectify the situation.

Katete needed two more pumps to supplement the existing ones which would cost not less than K500,000.

Civic responsibilities of the council were limping because it only had one vehicle on the road apart from one utility vehicle recently allocated to it.

#### \* State Owes Cooperative

91AF0289D Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English  
16 Oct 90 p 7

[Excerpt] The Zambia Cooperative Federation (ZCF) has rejected the demand by the Truckers Association of Zambia (TAZ) to auction its trucks to raise money for crop purchases.

ZCF chairman Comrade Goodson Willima said yesterday that selling off trucks was not a solution to the

current crop marketing muddle, adding that Government's K551 million [kwacha] debt to the cooperative movement had caused delays in the payment of maize transporters.

Reacting to TAZ demands, Cde Willima noted that the transporters had not fully understood the liberalised marketing system introduced recently.

"What is portrayed in the TAZ report is not only fear for competition, but also lack of understanding of the current status of maize marketing in Zambia," Cde Willima said.

Although Government assisted ZCF with procurement procedures, like they would with any other sector of the economy, the financing for the trucks was from the federation's own financial resources through bank borrowing.

"Like TAZ go to Barclays Bank. Facts are clear that ZCF borrowed K70 million to purchase the 110 Mercedes Benz trucks.

"The trucks were not a gift from any institution and we are still servicing the loan with the bank," he said.

Under the new marketing arrangement, it was not the sole responsibility of cooperatives to raise money for crop purchases but it was up to any institution involved in maize marketing, millers inclusive, to raise the necessary working capital to enable them buy and transport maize from farmers.

"There is therefore no connection between the ZCF trucks and money for crop purchases as ZCF and provincial cooperative unions are just among the several participants in maize marketing."

Government owed the cooperative movement K551 million in transport rebates for inter-provincial transfer of maize and this had created delays in paying transporters.

Of the 110 trucks received, 92 had been sold off to provincial cooperative unions.

"If TAZ is talking about the Mitsubishi trucks sold to ZCF by the Government, I hope the association is aware of the GRZ [expansion unknown]-Japan facility under which the Government made arrangements to procure vehicles from Japan to be paid for in Kwacha. [passage omitted]

#### \* Government Owes Suppliers

91AF0289E Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English  
10 Oct 90 p 7

[Text] Food suppliers to Government institutions in Southern Province yesterday protested at the office of the Member of the Central Committee in Livingstone over non-payment for supplies worth more than K17 million [kwacha].

The suppliers, some from far flung towns from the provincial headquarters had not been paid for supplying



different Government institutions in the province for periods ranging from three months and over.

A TIMES reporter was told that there was no money to pay suppliers K17 million and that was why authorities had suggested to pay each one 27 percent of the total amount owed.

The businessmen denied the part-payment because they were told the remaining amount would only be paid next year.

Efforts to get either the permanent secretary or the Member of the Central Committee Comrade Felix Luputa to address them in the morning failed because both were locked in a meeting with district executive secretaries from which the Press was barred.

The businessmen were riled when they heard that drivers and other workers from the Member of the Central Committee got as much as K12,000 subsistence allowances when they went on duty outside the town.

"Why should they fail to pay us for food which we have already delivered yet they are paying themselves hefty sums of money?" one of the traders asked.

#### \* Measures Make Maize Scarce

91AF0289F Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English  
13 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Lusaka has been hit by a shortage of mealie meal believed to have been caused by the current muddle in maize sales which has upset the flow of the commodity.

Residents yesterday ran from one shop to another in search of the item to no avail.

A TIMES survey showed there was no mealie meal in shops in the city centre, Lilanda, Kabulonga, Woodlands, Longacres and Matero.

Some shoppers with transport had rushed to ZCBC [expansion unknown] in Makeni where they found the commodity had just been cleared.

An Indeco [Industrial Development Corporation] spokesman who said he was not aware of the shortage indicated that the supply of mealie meal was being reviewed.

Residents waited in vain for hours outside State shops expecting that supplies would be delivered.

There has been a muddle in maize flow since the marketing system was liberalised. Cooperative unions have been failing to pay farmers.

Early this week the Zambia Cooperative Federation said by 28 September at least K560.4 million [kwacha] was outstanding to farmers while by the same date 3.6 million bags of the grain had been bought.

The Commercial Farmers Bureau has since appealed to farmers to demand for cash from millers.

Meanwhile, the Government has been implored to consider giving free food to famine stricken areas in Southern Province.

Chief Bright Nalubamba told President Kaunda when a delegation of chiefs from the province called on him yesterday that there were many needy families without food.

#### \* Mismanagement Ups Price

91AF0289G Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English  
11 Oct 90 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] The Government must move in speedily and liaise with organisations in the agricultural sector and the business community to solve the current maize marketing muddle.

Much as the liberalisation of maize sales was made in good faith, it has backfired. Now the mechanism needs re-examining and restructuring if need be.

What has happened seems to correlate with the saying that the devil one knows is much better than the devil one does not know. The old marketing system, limping as it was, should not have been dismantled before thorough feasibility studies were undertaken and concluded.

The current atmosphere does not seem to promise cheaper mealie meal in the long run. Even if this were achievable, how long can the Government hold out and keep prices artificially low while the marketing system disintegrates?

The Copperbelt Cooperative Union (CCU) said early in the week there may be a critical shortage of mealie meal because of maize having been bought from local farmers while truckers had stopped hauling grain from outlying depots because the CCU will not pay them.

On the other hand, hauliers have claimed the liberalisation scheme had fuelled smuggling and opened the door of opportunism wider. These are ills that will see us as a nation running very low on stocks and being forced to import maize at great cost to the treasury.

The price of mealie meal then will be astronomical, to say the least.

Millers have no storage facilities for the grain they are supposed to buy. Transportation is also another hustle. Reliance on hired silos will only push the cost of milling higher.

The requirement that truckers collect their payments from each district as opposed to one central area will also push costs higher and result in ventures being unprofitable.

Already, the Commercial Farmers Bureau has joined in the chorus over delayed payments wrought, not least of all, by the so-called siphoning of excess Kwacha from circulation meant to reduce inflation.



What has happened is the reverse and constriction of the business sector.

As a result, liquidity problems have gripped the cooperative unions and other purchasers of maize.

The National Milling Company cannot pay maize and wheat farmers until after 45 days!

This problem needs urgent correction so that the agricultural sector can move in unison with the rest of the economic factors.

#### **\* Cement Price Up Again**

91AF0289H Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
12 Oct 90 p 1

[Excerpt] The price of cement has gone up by more than 10 percent and this is the third increase within six months. A recent circular dated 1 October addressed to all customers says a 50 kg bag will now fetch K125 [kwacha] from K110. Cement packed in a customer's own bag will cost K100 from K90 while the re-bagged cement has been pegged at K115 from K100. The circular signed by Chilanga Cement sales manager Mr M.A. Kayenga states that the prices included five percent sales tax. [passage omitted]

#### **\* Flour Price Increased**

91AF0289I Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
9 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] National Milling [NMC] has increased the price of flour for the second time within a month, it was learnt in Lusaka yesterday.

Cake flour which was going at K566 [kwacha] for a 25kg bag would now cost K651 for the same quantity.

The other affected brands included self-raising flour, whole flour, and semolina.

Customers comprising mainly women were shocked yesterday when they crowded the NMC Cairo road premises for flour only to be told new prices had been effected.

Some women failed to buy the flour and bitterly complained over the sudden increase.

They said it was unfair for the company to increase the price twice within a month.

The last time the company increased the prices was last month when they hiked by 12 percent.

Many traders were then caught unawares by the flour increase.

#### **\* Fuel Rationing 'Required'**

91AF0289J Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
1 Oct 90 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] With the spectre of war looming over the Gulf, it's hardly surprising that oil importing nations like Zambia are having nightmares as their budgets have been thrown into disarray.

It will not be easy to stave off the adverse impact of the Gulf crisis, which is likely to have far-reaching ramifications, particularly on the more vulnerable economies like ours that are already under siege.

As pointed out a few days ago in this column, the Gulf impasse portends disaster for most Third World countries unless a peaceful solution, which is still within grasp, is found soon.

It is against this background that the increase in fuel prices should be viewed. There is no escaping the fact that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has sparked a crisis of grave proportions which has now put the world on the brink of war.

For a country like Zambia already facing an acute shortage of foreign exchange, even the little money available will be gobbled up by the soaring oil import bill to keep the wheels of industry turning.

Zambians must therefore brace for hard times ahead, like millions of other people elsewhere whose fragile economies are likely to go through traumatic experiences as a direct result of the volatile situation in the Gulf.

It would be inappropriate, if not suicidal, for our country to carry on business as before without taking cognisance of the crisis at hand.

Appropriate measures should be instituted to curtail wastage and ensure rational use of the precious oil resource. It is about time the Government and all parastatal firms including individuals, put a stop to non-essential trips to conserve fuel.

Fuel rationing would be much more bearable if it was done voluntarily rather than imposed by the State. A start should be made now in this direction to ensure compliance with the national council resolution calling for a national energy conservation policy.

It's no longer feasible for the Government and some of our parastatals which operate large fleets to keep every vehicle running. The most prudent move would be to ground all vehicles on non-essential errands.

The affluent families who are used to having three or more cars on the road should also adjust accordingly. Fuel rationing can no longer be brushed aside, it's a reality we have to live with.

No developing country will survive the present crisis without taking unpopular but inevitable decisions. Swift, timely action will yield much more positive results. Panicky, eleventh hour moves will aggravate the crisis.

### \* Commuters Face Increase

91AF0289K Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
1 Oct 90 p 1

[Excerpts] The United Bus Company of Zambia (UBZ) and the hotel industry will pass on to consumers increased operational costs to forestall massive losses and lay-offs because of the latest fuel price hike, it was learnt in Lusaka yesterday.

And the Truckers Association of Zambia (TAZ) fears that the maize haulage exercise which is already behind schedule would be adversely hit by the development as members would now press for new rates.

Most truckers faced serious operational difficulties as a result of the steep increase announced at the weekend, hence plans to review the present fares and prices charged to the public.

TAZ chairman Mr Charles Madondo said the fuel hike was "terrible" and worsened truckers' position which was already critical because of a "poor" marketing system that delayed payment for crop and fertiliser haulage tasks.

"If there will be any delays in the delivery of fertilizer to farmers and the collection of maize, we cannot be blamed. But despite these fuel costs, we cannot stop operating, food is a crucial matter."

He complained that when Zimco [Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation] announced a 55 percent increase in August, transporters agreed to absorb the cost as a service to the public, but now "we cannot absorb the cost anymore."

A Zimco spokesman said at the weekend the new retail price of premium petrol per litre would be K29 [kwacha] from K17.10, regular K24.60 (K14.60), diesel K16.50 (K10) and Kerosene K15 (K9.50).

TAZ would now work out all costs and hand its recommendations to the Minister of Power, Transport and Communications through the road traffic commission.

"Most transporters are desperate for work in the provinces but nothing is happening." The bad marketing system had aggravated matters in that truckers hauling maize from Eastern Province to deficit areas like Central Province had to return to the Eastern Cooperative Union for payment.

Truckers operating within a province had to collect payment from each district cooperative instead of getting paid from a provincial centre which made matters too complex.

Some transport operators including himself had raised workers' perks thrice already this year in sympathy with the all-round effects of the economy, but if salaries were raised too frequently employers faced redundancies. [passage omitted]

UBZ customer-public relations officer Mrs Alice Mwanza said the company would not raise fares on its routes for the next few weeks as long as there was no fuel interruption but "we are not ruling it out."

UBZ, as a parastatal, had to follow certain channels and could not increase its charges immediately.

Meanwhile, the United Transport and Taxis Association (UTTA) in Ndola has not yet hiked fares though it is feared it will soon do so.

Pirate operators also stuck to the old fares and said they were waiting for UTTA to review fares.

And farmers from Ndola Rural who brought their products for sale at Masala Main market said prices of vegetables would be reviewed.

### \* Fuel Costs Doubled

91AF0289L Lusaka *TIMES OF ZAMBIA* in English  
5 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Zambia should ration fuel because the situation in the Gulf, the main source of oil is still explosive, Minister of Power, Transport and Communications Brigadier-General Enos Haimbe said in Livingstone yesterday.

Although the fuel problem that hit Zambia recently and threatened the country's industrial operations had been brought under control, there were dangers of a worse shortage because of the Gulf crisis.

Addressing Party officials in the Victoria Hall, Gen Haimbe said there was need for rational use of the commodity.

Gen Haimbe who said Zambia had made arrangements for fresh supplies, told the meeting that it was imperative to ration fuel as a safeguard in case flow ceased completely in the event of a flare-up of the dispute.

Zambia could not maintain to service the high fuel bill which had more than doubled since the crisis started in the Gulf which accounted for a quarter of the world's oil production.

Gen Haimbe, who is a Member of the Central Committee directed filling stations to sell fuel and warned them against the practice of reserving supplies for account holders.

He discouraged storage of fuel in containers both in residential homes.

On the economy, Gen Haimbe said it had worsened because Zambians failed to respond adequately to the fast changing economic environment in implementing development programmes.

## Zimbabwe

### PLO's Arafat Meets Zimbabwean President 18 Dec

MB1812174090 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1115 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] Harare Dec 18 SAPA—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Harare on Tuesday aboard a Libyan airliner, escorted by an Iraqi jet aircraft.

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, government officials and diplomats braved a steady drizzle to meet the Palestinian head of state, reported ZIANA national news agency.

After exchanging greetings, the two presidents stood to attention on a dias in front of a guard of honour, while the national anthems of Zimbabwe and Palestine were played. They were then driven to State House, where they began talks. Mr. Arafat is expected to hold a press conference after his meeting with Mr. Mugabe.

### Holds Press Conference

MB1812173890 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1529 GMT 18 Dec 90

[Text] Harare Dec 18 SAPA—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat on Tuesday said the Gulf crisis should be dealt with by the United Nations secretary-general and not United States President George Bush, the ZIANA news agency reports from Harare.

At a press conference in the Zimbabwean capital, Mr 'Arafat said the Gulf issue was an international matter and should be dealt with in that context.

"Why not let the secretary-general deal with it? Why President Bush? This is not an American business. This is an international issue," he said.

At the beginning of the crisis, few countries were in favour of a peaceful solution but the international community was now in favour of a peaceful settlement.

Mr 'Arafat, who was speaking after a meeting with Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, said he appreciated President Bush's initiative for dialogue and regretted that the Americans and Iraqis were hesitating over a disagreement on dates.

He said he had already visited Zambia, Angola, Gabon and Nigeria to discuss the situation in the occupied territories of Palestine and the Gulf crisis.

His visit of African countries takes him next to Tanzania, then to Uganda.

He described the response of all the leaders he had met, including President Mugabe, as positive.

On the Palestinian problem, Mr 'Arafat said that, although the Palestine Liberation Organisation had put forward proposals for a peaceful solution as far back as 1988, the organisation had not received any positive response from

the Israelis, adding that the only response they had received had been "more oppression and massacre".

"Yesterday, in one day, 1200 people were arrested ... Against the Geneva convention," he said.

He said although the United Nations Security Council had passed 12 resolutions against Iraq, none had been passed on the Palestinian issue, because of the American veto, which, he said, had been used seven times this year to protect Israel.

"We cannot do anything in the Security Council because of the American veto. Maybe they are interested in the oil. We are interested in protecting the holy places—it is more important than oil," Mr 'Arafat said.

He said during the past three years, 1400 people, 40 per cent of whom were under 16, had been killed in the occupied lands.

"Eighty-six thousand have been injured, 6500 disabled and there have been 7000 miscarriages and 92000 people were arrested and are in concentration camps," he said.

He was speaking just before leaving for the airport before he was due to fly to Tanzania.

Earlier on Tuesday Mr 'Arafat held talks lasting more than an hour with President Mugabe at State House.

The Palestinian president arrived in Zimbabwe on Tuesday aboard a Libyan airliner, escorted by an Iraqi jet aircraft.

President Mugabe, government officials and diplomats braved a steady drizzle to meet the Palestinian head of state.

After exchanging greetings, the two presidents stood to attention on a dias in front of a guard of honour, while the national anthems of Zimbabwe and Palestine were played.

They were then driven to state house and went into talks soon afterwards.

### \* Donors Reluctant To Grant Land Reform Funds

91AF0290F Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE-  
FARMING GAZETTE in English 19 Oct 90 pp 21, 23

[Article by Regis Nyamakanga]

[Text] Zimbabwe's land redistribution programme now hangs in the balance because major donors, who include the British Government, are understood to be reluctant to provide funds for its implementation, according to a senior government official.

The official, who declined to be named, said that donors were not willing to release funds because they felt that the government would not effectively implement the programme.

Under the land redistribution programme, the government intends to acquire about 6 million hectares of land from the commercial farming areas, at an estimated book value of \$3 billion.

"For the government to implement the programme, it will require outside assistance in the form of donor funds. However, at the moment, there is only 55 percent of donor funding available for the project," the official said.

"We have a situation where the major donors are complaining about the government's lack of necessary capacity to effectively utilise any funds that they may provide," he said.

The major donors to the resettlement programme are the British Overseas Development Administration (ODA), the African Development Bank (ADB), the African Development Fund (ADF), the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the European Community (EC).

"We have a problem where government capacity to implement the programme has deteriorated. Here we are looking at the capacity to plan or effectively appraise projects in the programme and management of the actual implementation," he said.

"We are facing a real problem which has been developing over the past five years, but came to a head about the middle of last year when, in response to a request by the Zimbabwe Government for further assistance to purchase land for the resettlement programme, the British Government stated that in principle, it was prepared to continue to assist, but on two conditions.

"One of the conditions was that the Zimbabwe Government should retain the willing seller-willing buyer provision entrenched in the British-rokered Lancaster House Constitution, and the second was that arrangements should be in hand for the timely efficient development of land to ensure that economic and social benefits are attained for those to be resettled," he said.

All these points were confirmed in a letter dated 18 October 1989, written to Vice-President Simon Muzenda, who was the then acting Minister of Finance Economic Planning and Development, by Mrs Lynda Chalker, the British Minister for Overseas Development.

The letter promised that Britain would provide technical assistance to the Ministries of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Development and Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, to plan and implement the programme.

Following this correspondence, the British Government appointed a technical mission to visit Zimbabwe to discuss with the relevant ministries the basis for economically viable and sustainable resettlement schemes on the land to be bought, as well as the modalities of purchasing the land.

The mission met the permanent secretary of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Dr Boniface Ndimande, and that of Local Government, Rural and Urban

Development Dr Mariyawanda Nzuwa, as well as officials from Agritex, the District Development Fund (DDF), the Department of Rural Development, and the Land Valuation Department.

A document signed by Mrs Jane Laurence, first secretary at the British High Commission in Zimbabwe, said: "These departments described to the mission a number of constraints which they considered needed to be overcome to give them the capacity to implement the new resettlement schemes. They fall into the following categories: institutional, staffing, equipment and financial."

It was found that pressure on the Department of Rural Development (DERUDE) staff could be reduced if they were able to hand over completed resettlement schemes to the appropriate district authority. However, this could not be done as the relevant legislation had not been implemented, said the document.

The British technical mission was told that the number of staff at all levels in Agritex, DERUDE and DDF had fallen significantly and a substantial number of the posts had been frozen.

"Recent agreement to unfreeze about 300 posts in the Ministry of Local Government, will enable DERUDE and DDF to cope with their present work loads, but they would also require additional resources to tackle an expansion of the resettlement programme," the document said.

The monitoring and evaluation unit of the Ministry of Lands was under-resourced, both in terms of staff and recurrent costs, seriously limiting the work of monitoring the impact of individual schemes on production and social aspects, it said.

The document said the monitoring unit of DERUDE was also experiencing staff problems, as well as lack of equipment to undertake new resettlement projects.

Although the government has acknowledged that it does not have the capacity to implement the land redistribution programme, an official at the British High Commission said this week that the problem had still not been solved.

The official said that Britain would not want to encourage the Zimbabwean Government to embark on the next phase of the resettlement programme without addressing the problems which were reported to the mission.

"We need some movement before we can release any funds. We do not want aid money lying around because all the necessary things are not in place," the official said.

**\* Main Cities Far Behind on Electric Bills**  
91AF0290E Harare THE HERALD-BUSINESS  
HERALD in English 1 Nov 90 p 2

[Article by Tim Chigodo]

[Text] The country's two largest cities owe the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority [ZESA] a staggering



\$37,505,945 in electricity bills, the Minister of Energy and Water Resources and Development, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, has said.

He told BUSINESS HERALD in an interview that Harare owed Zesa \$22,647,260 while Bulawayo was in debt with the parastatal to the tune of \$14,858,688. "As at 30 June this year, these were Zesa's outstanding debtors," Dr Ushewokunze said.

Everything possible was being done to recover the money. The money had been accumulated over a period of about four years since the amalgamation of the cities' electricity undertakings and Zesa.

At that time it was agreed that the two cities would act as agents for Zesa for electricity meter reading, billing and revenue collection from July 1987 to 30 June this year. After that the cities would continue to issue joint electricity and water bills for the next three years but these would be split to show Zesa and city charges.

It was also agreed that the municipalities would charge Zesa agency fees for the three-year period. The whole arrangement was to be subjected to an internal audit with Zesa paying the audit costs.

Although other municipalities owed Zesa, the amounts were minimal. Only Victoria Falls owed the authority about \$1.2 million last year.

Recently Zesa increased the cost of electricity in all parts of the country by an average of 21.7 percent beginning today. Zesa chairman, Professor Richard Harlen, said the increases followed the removal of all elements of cross subsidisation with the exception of tariffs to low-income domestic consumers.

Professor Harlen also attributed the increases to the high inflation rate, low tariffs, high costs of coal, rail charges and labour. Zesa was failing to meet the conditions set by the World Bank for the \$450 million Power Plant II in 1988.

The increases fell far short of keeping pace with the inflationary rate that had accumulated during the past five years. The authority would continue to face financial difficulties because of the capital-intensive nature of its operations.

#### **\* Government Pressures Company on Pollution**

91AF0290C Harare THE HERALD in English  
19 Oct 90 p 1

[Article by Pedro Salbany]

[Text] Efforts to control and eliminate pollution from Zimbabwe Phosphates Industries Limited to the south-east of Harare need to be speeded up since it is the major source of several contaminants in the city's dams which are close to maximum permitted levels.

A Government study on the pollution problems caused by the company said that most of the effluent and

seepages from the plant went into a watercourse because of its location and the Mukuvisi River carried the bulk.

The company, which produces phosphate and super-phosphate fertilisers plus related mineral acids, aluminium sulphate and other chemicals, has been operating on pollution-control exemption permits since the late 1970s when tough new standards were set. The company had been operating since the late 1950s but only ran into trouble with the new law 20 years later.

The permits have been renewed yearly by the Government on condition that agreed steps are taken to stop the pollution. But progress has been slow.

Some pollutants, such as flouride which is beneficial to teeth in small quantities to cause problems in higher quantities [as published], are now close to maximum laid down levels in Lake Chivero.

Flouride, allowed at concentrations of one-part in a million, is released from gypsum in the factory's dumps. The gypsum slime dam is located at a point where it feeds the Hatfield Stream and the legal limit showed the concentration has hit an average of 447 parts in a million in January, February and March this year.

There has also been seepage into Epworth's underground supplies and the factory now has to supply Epworth Mission with safe drinking water from its borehole. The dam is not fully lined, says the report.

Residual sulphur oxides leached out of dumped calcine pyrites ore causes acidification in the rainy season with Ph levels reaching 1.5 to 2. way above the neutral level of seven. Leaching also occurs from an old arsenic plant.

#### **\* New Steel Hardening Machinery Arrives**

91AF0290A Harare THE HERALD-BUSINESS  
HERALD in English 1 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] The first of two consignments of steel hardening machinery has arrived from France and is being installed at Astral hardening's new factory at Stapleford.

The second shipment is expected this month and the new consignment will enable Astral to harden stainless steel, undertake bronze and brass annealing, armoured resistance annealing, nickel and copper brazing and the sintering of carbon parts.

The absence of a sophisticated hardening process locally has been a major hurdle for steel manufacturers who have been able to forge a wide range of products, but have been unable to harden them to the required degree.

The plant will be installed at a cost of \$2.5 million at the new Astral hardening premises, which cost a further \$2 million. It will consist of a pit furnace, tool quenching equipment and a flat electric furnace with continuous washers and vibration feeder loaders.



The new plant will be used for the hardening of fasteners such as nuts, bolts, engineering and automotive joints, as well as for the planned production of surgical equipment and cutlery.

#### \* EC Provides Trucks To Ease Transport

91AF0187B Harare THE HERALD in English  
16 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] The European Community yesterday gave 30 Peugeot 504 pick-up trucks worth \$1.24 million to the Agricultural Finance Corporation [AFC] for use in the rural areas.

The trucks are part of the European Community's \$75 million soft loan to the AFC. Presenting the trucks in Harare to the AFC deputy general manager, Comrade Caleb Chiri, EC's economic adviser in Zimbabwe, Mr Michael Lake, said the thrust of the programme was rural development.

He said the EC had set aside \$1.68 million to buy vehicles for the AFC, and the 30 trucks were part of a large consignment of other vehicles which were expected in the country soon. These included 10 saloon cars and 30 motorcycles.

The EC would also provide spare parts for the vehicles for the next three years.

In thanking the community for the gift, Cde Chiri said the trucks would be used by the corporation's field staff countrywide.

"We are at the moment experiencing transport problems and maintenance costs of the available fleet are extremely high."

He said the 30 trucks would ease the transport problem and help to increase agricultural production in the country.

Meanwhile, the EC was involved in 3,000 micro-projects aimed at stimulating agricultural production and raising the standard of living throughout the country.

The programme is the largest to be undertaken by the EC in the country. The money would also be used to help AFC in its management services, to buy other equipment and give loans to communal farmers.

AFC will pay back the loan in an unspecified period of time, said the corporations assistant general manager (administration), Comrade Don Mahleka.

#### \* Iraqi Ambassador Urges Acceptance of Oil

91AF0294A Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE  
WEEKENDER in English 19 Oct 90 p W2

[Text] Harare—Iraqi Ambassador to Zimbabwe this week vowed that his country will not pull out of Kuwait no matter what pressure is exerted against it by the international community.

In his first public comment on the Gulf crisis since Iraq invaded Kuwait on 2 August, Ambassador Issam Mahboub said Iraq had historical rights over the oil-rich Emirate and would continue to defend these rights regardless of the magnitude of United Nations-imposed sanctions.

"Whatever the consequences of these sanctions, we are not going to give in," Mr Mahboub told Ziana in an interview.

Asked if UN sanctions had already started to bite, Mr Mahboub said Iraqi children were not suffering because of the absence of baby milk and medicines.

He pointed out that Security Council resolutions did not call for the "starvation" of the Iraqi people but United States forces in the Gulf were not respecting this.

Mr Mahboub said the gulf crisis was inter-linked to the whole problem of the Middle-East and at the root of it was Israel.

"Because of all this, Iraq proposes that as the problems in the Middle-East are inter-linked and inter-locked, they should be resolved according to one set of basic principles and premises to be laid down by the United Nations Security Council. These call for the withdrawal of Israel from occupied Arab territories," said Mr Mahboub.

Asked whether Zimbabwe's condemnation of the invasion and support for the UN sanctions had affected relations with Iraq, Mr Mahboub said: "Zimbabwe is an independent country and is free to take any position which it believes to be right. We can only hope that Zimbabwe will take into consideration the great harm that was inflicted against Iraq in its historical rights in Kuwait.

He said he did not believe bilateral relations between Iraq and Zimbabwe had suffered because of the Gulf crisis.

"Zimbabwe and Iraq have been friends and allies for many years even before independence, and I do not think our relations have been affected. We certainly wish the relations will expand and I will spare no effort to see that they prosper," he said.

He urged Zimbabwe to take advantage of the Iraqi initiative to provide needy third world countries with oil without any charge regardless of their positions on the latest Gulf crisis.

He said the offer was in accordance with article 15 of the UN Charter which states that if a country's economy is harmed as a result of its enforcement of UN resolutions, it has the right to consult the Security Council with regard to the solution of those problems.

"Iraq has already provided the solution by offering free oil, said Mr Mahboub.

Mr Mahboub also condemned the United States' presence in the Gulf saying its whole objective was to capture the oil wells which provide the bulk of the world's petroleum needs.

**\* Alarming Skilled Manpower Drain Continues**

91AF0293E Harare *THE HERALD* in English  
17 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] A call for an end to the massive and alarming brain drain of skilled manpower from Zimbabwe was made yesterday by the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Comrade John Nkomo.

He appealed for maximum co-operation between the Government, the private sector and vocational and technical training colleges in producing more skilled people if Zimbabwe were to stop the continuing brain drain to neighbouring countries.

Presenting a paper at the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries' two-day national conference on the economic structural adjustment programme and trade liberalisation in Harare yesterday, Cde Nkomo said the output of skilled manpower from training colleges had to be speeded up. This was despite the number of such centres increasing from 2 to 11 since 1980.

Cde Nkomo attributed this brain drain to low wages and salaries in Zimbabwe compared to better incentives offered by other countries.

Zimbabwe had lost more than 15,000 skilled people to neighbouring countries, especially South Africa and Botswana. With prospects of an end to apartheid, Cde Nkomo said, this brain drain was bound to worsen.

"Skilled people are internationally mobile and will, therefore, go to countries where their skills are adequately rewarded. Whereas in 1989 a well-qualified toolmaker in Zimbabwe earned \$2,500 a month, his South African counterpart earned R3,622 [Rands] a month. Add to this disparity the availability of a wide range of consumer luxuries on the South African market, and lower taxes, and the reason for the brain drain becomes obvious."

Cde Nkomo blamed the brain drain on poor pay, high income tax, poor benefit packages and shortages of consumer luxuries, but added that it was being worked on by the Government. He was convinced that the economic adjustment and trade liberalisation programme embarked on by the Government would help solve the problems.

Said the minister: "There is no doubt that once investment booms, productivity and output rises, exports expand, and more jobs are created, wages and salaries will increase, more luxury goods will be available and the tax rate will be reduced."

On the nation's manpower needs, Cde Nkomo said that according to a 1986/89 manpower plan, more than 80,000 skilled people should have been available for the production sub-sectors by 1990, but this was not achieved.

The Ministry of Health alone needed 6,700 more people, while by 1995, it would need another 4,915 skilled and professional staff. Of this figure, 57 were specialist

medical practitioners, while 137 were general practitioners. At current loss of doctors from the ministry, 141 specialist doctors and 672 general practitioners were expected to leave.

The Government would try and minimise such problems through expanded training programmes in skills needed in an open economy. "We live in a dynamic world and we have no option but to liberalise our economy if we are to avoid being relegated to the dustbin of development." He added that labour laws would have to be liberalised to reflect the new economic order.

**\* First Romanian Delegation Arrives on Visit**

91AF0287C Harare *THE HERALD* in English  
17 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The first official delegation from Romania since last December's revolution arrived in Harare on Monday with a message from the new leadership of the country.

Headed by the Under-Secretary of State in the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Teodor Meleseanu, the delegation yesterday briefed their Zimbabwean counterparts on events taking place in their country.

The revolution in Romania last year did not affect the traditionally friendly relations with Zimbabwe, he said, adding that his delegation was here to discuss ways to promote and find new fields of cooperation between the two countries.

The new Romanian Government was working on transforming an absolutely centrally planned and authoritative economy to a market economy by reducing or eliminating administrative methods of management by the state, he said.

Mr Meleseanu said the new government's aim was to give autonomy to enterprises. "Ownership of enterprises will be transferred to workers by granting them free shares or selling to individuals who wish to buy."

The transition from authoritative to market economy will run parallel with measures to reduce and eliminate the social cost from the people, he said.

To this end, the government will continue to subsidise basic commodities. Control on foreign currency will gradually be reduced till it is eliminated.

During the meeting yesterday with the acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Comrade Nicholas Goche, they discussed ways of improving political dialogue and consultation at high levels of government.

In the economic field, they discussed progress made on the Kadoma glass factory and assistance to Zimbabwe in the form of spare parts for tractors and televisions.

They also discussed the exchange of students, teachers, scientists and artists and the promotion of tourism between the two countries.

**\* Trade Balance With U.K. Encouraging**

91AF0287A Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE  
in English 26 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Zimbabwe recorded a favourable trade balance of 8.8 million pounds sterling, nearly \$40 million in trade with Britain in 1989, when the country exported goods worth 85.8 million pounds sterling and imported goods worth 87 million pounds sterling.

Britain remains Zimbabwe's second largest trading partner after South Africa.

According to figures released by the British Department of Trade and Industry, the main Zimbabwe exports to Britain in 1989 were tobacco, which earned the country 22.8 million pounds sterling, sugar and honey, which earned 10.2 million pounds sterling, and petroleum and petroleum products, which earned Zimbabwe 9.9 million pounds sterling.

Other exports were meat and meat preparations, earning 7.8 million pounds sterling, textile yarn and fabrics, which earned 6.1 million pounds sterling, coffee, tea, cocoa and spices, which earned 5.7 million pounds sterling, and iron and steel, which earned 5.1 million pounds sterling.

Metalliferous ores and metal scrap exports from Zimbabwe realised earnings of 4.4 million pounds sterling, while clothing exports earned 4.3 million pounds sterling, vegetables and fruit 1.9 million pounds sterling, professional scientific, and control instruments 1.1 million pounds sterling, and transport equipment 500,000 pounds sterling.

Power-generating machinery and telecommunications equipment each earned the country 400,000 pounds sterling, while crude fertilisers and minerals brought in 200,000 pounds sterling. Other miscellaneous exports brought in an additional 5 million pounds sterling.

UK imports from Zimbabwe have been dropping over the years, from 94.7 million pounds sterling in 1985, to 80.7 million pounds sterling in 1986, 79.7 million pounds sterling in 1987, 86.3 million pounds sterling in 1988, and 85.8 million pounds sterling in 1989.

Meanwhile, UK exports to Zimbabwe totalled 87 million pounds sterling in 1989. The major export items to Zimbabwe were road vehicles, which cost the country 14.1 million pounds sterling, general industrial machinery and transport equipment which each cost Zimbabwe 6.9 million pounds sterling, and power generating machinery and metalworking machinery, which each cost 5.4 million pounds sterling.

Other major export items were iron and steel, which cost 4 million pounds sterling, electrical machinery, which cost 4.7 million pounds sterling, non-metallic mineral manufactures and professional, scientific and control instruments, each costing 3.7 million pounds sterling, and telecommunications equipment, costing 3.2 million pounds sterling.

UK exports to Zimbabwe went from 73.6 million pounds sterling in 1985 to 61.9 million pounds sterling in 1986, 63.2 million pounds sterling in 1987, 58.1 million pounds sterling in 1988 and rose substantially to 87 million pounds sterling in 1989.

Meanwhile, IMF Directory of Trade Statistics shows that South Africa has firmly remained the major source of Zimbabwe's imports, with Zimbabwe importing goods worth U.S.\$255.8 million from that country in 1988.

Imports from the UK in the same year amounted to U.S.\$103.7 million, while those from the Federal Republic of Germany totalled U.S.\$101.7 million.

Imports from Botswana totalled U.S.\$73.8 million, while those from the United States amounted to U.S.\$37.8 million, with goods from Japan totalling U.S.\$36.4 million.

Goods worth a further U.S.\$31.8 million were imported from the Netherlands, U.S.\$28.9 million from France, U.S.\$23.2 million from Italy, and U.S.\$17.2 million from Sweden. Total imports amounted to just over U.S.\$1 billion.

**\* Shippers Concerned at Beira Congestion**

91AF0294E Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE  
in English 2 Nov 90 p 8

[Text] Shipping companies are increasingly concerned about the growing level of congestion at the Mozambican port of Beira resulting from insufficient cargo handling facilities, at the port.

Most shipping companies said this week, that cargo via the Mozambican port was growing faster than the rate of infrastructural development at Beira. This had led to delays in shipping of exports, and delivery and collection of imports for Zimbabwean companies and others in the region.

As a result of the increase in cargo at the port, one of the shipping companies, Mediterranean Shipping—in August put an additional ship to service Beira to help alleviate the congestion, a spokeswoman for the company said.

But a Spokesman for Meridien Shipping company said most similar companies, were increasingly worried about the inadequacy of berthing facilities, at the port which sometimes kept ships at sea waiting for the facilities to be free.

At the moment, he said, there were only four operational berths at Beira, and the rest undergoing major rehabilitation by both the Mozambican government and an array of international donors.

It was not clear when the rehabilitation exercise would be completed and most of the shipping companies expressed concern that Zimbabwe's exports and imports via the port would be kept at a minimum in relation to total cargo.



**\* Zambia Switching Mineral Exports to Namibia**

91AF0294C Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE  
in English 2 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Zambia has switched its mineral export routes from Beira through the newly-independent state of Namibia, allegedly because of the failure of the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ) to cope, regional transport contractors told the GAZETTE this week.

Last week, the GAZETTE reported that a new metals export route through Namibia had been opened for Zambia. A spokesman for Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines [ZCCM] said that the new route involved road haulage through Katimamulilo to the northern Namibia rail-head town of Grootfontein, from where the cargo will be transported by rail to Walvis Bay.

A spokesman for ZCCM was quoted as saying that the route would be significant because it would complement Zambia's major outlets to the sea—Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Beira in Mozambique.

Zambia's shortest sea route was Angola's part of Lobito, it was rendered inaccessible when the Benguela railway was attacked by Unita [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] bandits.

A regional transport expert said this week that the Zambians were switching to a route 1,400 kms further than Beira because of the inability of the NRZ to perform adequately.

They can get to Walvis Bay in eight days while it takes two weeks to get to Beira. There is a blockage at Livingstone and as a result the Beira route suffers once again.

Meanwhile, it is believed that there is a company which is working to rehabilitate Lions Den near Chinhoyi. The company hopes to build a land bridge between Beira and Lions Den.

The project would bring Lions Den back to its pre-1965 pre-eminence as a rail port. The distance between Lusaka and Lions Den is approximately 200 kms by road.

**\* Employment Growth Lags Behind Job Seekers**

91AF0293E Harare THE HERALD in English  
18 Oct 90 p 9

[Text] The high population growth rate of 3.7 percent a year between 1980 and 1986, together with the expanding school population has resulted in more than 200,000 new job-seekers entering the labour market each year, says the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Comrade John Nkomo.

Officially closing a symposium on foreign trade policy and national development in Bulawayo yesterday, Cde Nkomo said the economy had not been able to create additional jobs and this had affected residual sectors of the economy.

He said that according to the population census in 1982, open unemployment was 10.8 percent for the whole labour force and 18.5 percent when communal farmers were included.

According to the results of the labour force survey carried out by the Government in 1986, out of the 3,259,495 total active labour force, 223,620 were unemployed in both urban and communal areas. When communal areas were excluded, unemployment was 15.9 percent of the total labour force.

"Although these statistics provide a baseline of information on the extent of unemployment in Zimbabwe, the figures are highly conservative. It is evident that employment growth in the formal sector has been very little (average of 0.7 percent per annum since 1980).

"Furthermore, the average rate of growth of the labour force, (3.7 percent per annum), far outstrips the rate of employment creation given the number of school-leavers joining the pool of the unemployed each year," he said.

Cde Nkomo said according to the 1986 survey figures, 6.5 percent of the unemployed were men and 7.9 percent were women—hence women were more vulnerable to unemployment than men.

He said that unemployment was higher in the urban areas with about 16.5 percent than in the communal and non-farming areas which had 15.1 percent of the unemployed.

"The highest rates of urban unemployment were recorded in Harare with about 17.5 percent and Bulawayo 26.7 percent," he said.

Over 50 percent of the urban unemployed were between the age group of 15 to 24 years, Cde Nkomo said. This showed that unemployment was highest among young people, especially school-leavers.

The employment and equity from formal-sector growth were limited given the size of the unemployment and underemployment problem which was predominantly concentrated in the non-formal sectors of the economy.

Cde Nkomo said the Government's decision to move on a new economic path, to liberalise the trade system, to create investment and enable economic growth, should be viewed in the context of solving the country's unemployment and other social issues.

**\* Ministers, MP's Receive Pay Increases**

91AF0293D Harare THE HERALD in English  
20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Salaries and most allowances of Vice-Presidents, ministers, the Speaker, Parliamentary committee chairman and MP's have been raised by the President.

The increases will be backdated to 1 July, according to the Parliamentary Salaries, Allowances and Benefits (Specification of Benefits) Notice of 1990 gazetted yesterday.



The new annual salaries (with the old salary in brackets) are: Vice-Presidents \$70,008 (\$60,000), senior ministers \$60,000 (\$50,000), Speaker of Parliament \$60,000 (\$48,000), ministers and the Attorney General \$52,944 (\$46,000), deputy ministers and the deputy speaker \$42,588 (\$37,000), chairman of the Parliamentary [words indistinct] \$39,132 (\$34,000), other Parliamentary committee chairmen \$35,676 (\$31,000), Chief Whip \$33,384 (\$29,000), and other backbench MPs \$30,000 (\$26,000).

In addition the Vice-Presidents are entitled to a rent-free State-maintained and furnished house plus a general allowance of \$12,000 (\$10,000) a year and a housing allowance of \$8,000 (\$7,000) a year.

Senior ministers and the Speaker have had their general allowances set at \$8,400 (\$7,000), ministers and the Attorney General receive \$6,000 (\$5,000), and deputy ministers and the deputy speaker receive \$3,000 (\$2,500). Everyone in this group also receives a housing allowance of \$12,000 a year which is unchanged.

Backbench MPs are entitled to constituency allowances ranging from \$240 a year for those with small urban constituencies and those without a constituency to \$1,440 for those with sprawling rural constituencies of more than 3,125,000 hectares.

Backbenchers also get a special allowance of \$1,560 a year if they live within 80 km of Parliament and \$3,600 a year if they live further away. An allowance of \$25 a meeting is paid to backbenchers for every committee meeting they attend, but they lose this plus a \$20 penalty if they miss a meeting without permission.

The President's salary was raised to \$80,000 a year recently by the Senior Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development with a Cabinet allowance set at \$36,000 and a housing allowance of \$8,000.

All the increases are in line with those granted to other State employees by the Public Service Commission in the latest round of negotiations. Generally speaking, members of the Government, like most State employees, receive lower pay packages than people holding similar positions in the private sector.

#### \* Irrigation Scheme To Proceed Despite Protest

91AF0287D Harare THE HERALD in English  
22 Oct 90 p 1

[Article by Ray Mungoshi, Bikita]

[Excerpt] The Zanu (PF) [Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front] leadership in Bikita has endorsed the controversial \$1 million Rozva irrigation scheme and will recommend to the provincial council that farmers against the project be dislodged.

In an interview, the party's provincial political commissar, Comrade Jerifanos Matorofa, dissociated the Zanu (PF) leadership in the district from farmers who were against the scheme.

He dispelled rumours making rounds in Masvingo that the party leadership in Bikita had incited the farmers to turn down the project. Zanu (PF) was wholly behind the project as it was meant to benefit the people. "We are a people's party and as such cannot stand in the way of those trying to improve the lives of the same people we represent."

Zanu (PF) would instead strive to educate people, who claimed to be party cadres and yet blocked development projects. However, Cde Matorofa added that the district leadership had unanimously agreed to remove farmers opposed to the irrigation scheme from the area by next year.

Dissenting farmers should move out to make way for others willing to join the irrigation scheme earmarked for the \$4.5 million Rozva Dam, he said. However, those who chose to leave the area would do so at their own expense. [passage omitted]

The irrigation scheme at Rozva has been a thorny issue in Bikita since 160 families in the area rejected the project.

#### \* Transport Problems Hinder Drought Relief

91AF0288D Harare THE HERALD in English  
1 Nov 90 p 5

[Text] More than 270,000 people had asked for drought relief handouts over the last three months, but only some 100,000 had received the food, the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Comrade John Nkomo, told Parliament yesterday.

In response to questions raised by Members of Parliament, Cde Nkomo said transport problems, compounded by breakdowns and spare parts shortages, had hampered food distribution.

Requests had been made from other Government departments and the District Development Fund for more trucks.

The figures given by the minister showed that October had recorded the highest number of appeals, with 145,206 people having requested drought relief to date and only 14,000 being given relief.

"I must remind MPs [Members of Parliament] that Government has decided to phase out this programme and replace it with the public works programme for people to be paid in cash to buy for themselves their needs," said the minister.

He said the Cabinet had considered the matter and agreed that this be proceeded with, "subject to the availability of funds."

**\* Namibia Airline Makes Maiden Flight**

91AF0287E Harare THE HERALD in English  
1 Nov 90 p 1

[Text] Ziana—A Namib Air Boeing 737 touched down at the Harare International Airport yesterday, marking a successful maiden flight linking Windhoek in Namibia and Harare.

The Windhoek-Harare route was the second route established by the airline to link the Namibian capital with its Southern African neighbours, with regular flights to South Africa having been established in August 1989.

Among the approximately 100 passengers aboard the two-hour inaugural flight, were Namibian Deputy Minister of Transport, Mr Klaus Dierks, Windhoek Mayor Clr Abraham Bernard May and representatives of the business community.

The "new (air) traffic corridor" that extended air service between Namibia and Zimbabwe, would hopefully boost business traffic and tourist flow between the two countries said Namib Air managing director, Mr Francois Uys.

Namib Air's non-stop direct weekly flights would "cement links that already exist" and would promote trade and tourism between the two countries, said the Deputy Minister of Transport, Comrade Amina Hughes at the welcoming ceremony.

The ministry of transport would continue to monitor the route's traffic flow, which consisted of both Namib Air and Air Zimbabwe flights, and would, in the future, consider the possibility of adding new flights, she said.

**\* Report Finds Food Security Satisfactory**

91AF0288E Harare THE HERALD in English  
31 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The food security in most parts of the country has remained satisfactory except in some drought-stricken areas where food has had to be moved under the Government's drought relief programme.

By the end of September, the Grain Marketing Board [GMB] had bought 736,041 tonnes of maize which was 25 percent less compared to the intake during the corresponding period last year.

According to the quarterly food security bulletin of the Early Warning Food Security Unit, maize distribution under the Government's drought relief programme of 8,702 tonnes in August was the highest so far this year.

The amount was 24 percent higher than that distributed in July. Out of the total amount distributed, the share of Manicaland was 35 percent followed by Matabeleland South with 21 percent and Masvingo 12 percent. Even in Mashonaland West and East, Zimbabwe's major maize producing areas, the amount distributed increased in August.

"In view of the low intake of maize so far, the total maize procurement target of 1.1 million tonnes will not be realised. The maximum realisation will be at the range of 900,000 tonnes during the current marketing year.

"Taking into account realisation of procurement, local commercial sale and export target achievement, the closing stock of maize by the end of the marketing year is expected to be around 900,000 tonnes, which is about 22 percent less than the opening stock.

"The expected closing stock is still higher than the carry-over requirement of 500,000 tonnes. Therefore, efforts should be made to promote export thereby reducing the stock and lessening burden on the Treasury," the bulletin said.

The large-scale commercial sector had delivered 345,581 tonnes of maize to the GMB by the end of September. This was 78 percent of the expected delivery from this sector.

Communal and small-scale commercial farmers had, by the end of that month, delivered 365,995 tonnes which was 58 percent of the forecast. The bulletin said it was now projected that the actual delivery from the two sectors would be less than the forecast by 20 percent.

From the beginning of the 1990/91 marketing year the GMB had a maize opening stock of 1.158 million tonnes with an expected domestic production of just below 2 million tonnes. The board was expected to buy 1.1 million tonnes.

**\* Staff Shortage Hinders Housing Projects**

91AF0288A Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English  
14 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Thousands of dollars meant for housing projects in rural areas are returned to Treasury each year by district councils because there are no physical planners for the housing projects, it has been learnt.

The secretary-general of the Association of District Councils, Comrade Solomon Chikate, has told THE SUNDAY MAIL that many projects in rural areas were not being carried out for lack of planners.

"We have discussed this problem at our past two congresses but there does not seem to be any solution in sight," he said.

Councils applied for funds for housing projects but sometimes returned them to Treasury at the end of the year after having failed to use them. They would re-apply the following year.

"Another problem is that when we are waiting for planners, which sometimes takes up to a year, the cost of construction escalates and by the time we get the planners the funds would be inadequate," said Cde Chikate.

The shortage of physical planners was also affecting the granting of title deeds to businessmen at growth points and rural service centres.

"A number of businessmen are discouraged by the delay in planning, which results in a delay in granting title deeds. Without title deeds, businessmen cannot get loans for their projects," he said.

In a recent study on planning laws for urban and regional planning in Zimbabwe, a researcher with the University of Zimbabwe's department of rural and urban planning, Dr Kadiel Wekwete, said although the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act of 1976 is meant to facilitate planning, development control and land management, this was not being done as there was no manpower.

The study says only two cities—Harare and Bulawayo—have a basic complement for implementing the provisions of the Act.

"In the small and medium-sized towns they have a town engineer's department with no planning complement. They rely on central advice from the Department of Physical Planning provincial offices.

"This is totally inadequate and therefore most settlements are only capable of implementing development control on the basis of old development schemes," says the study.

Statutorily though, each urban authority had to employ at least two planners, with the necessary complement of technicians.

Elaborating on his study, Dr Wekwete said after independence, Government had said there should be planned growth points, towns and even villages, but this could not be achieved without physical planners at grassroot level.

"There are 18 urban local authorities but only Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare, Gweru and Marondera have planners. This shows there is a serious bottleneck."

Commenting on the staffing of local authorities, the director of the Department of Physical Planning, Comrade Jonathan Zamchiya, said these authorities were different in many respects and should be given the latitude to determine their planning complement.

"Since independence, the department has constantly argued that each local authority, be it urban, rural or district, should engage its physical planners," he said.

"This will accord with Government's policy on decentralisation. We still maintain our stand. If this were to be achieved, the department will concentrate on broad issues such as policy formulation, review of the Act, regulations, circulars and other things."

On the complaints about the planning of growth points, he said these were not a creation of his department alone, but that of local people, through councils and Government ministries.

## Ghana

### Radio on Significance of British Official's Visit

AB1912092690 Accra Domestic Service in English  
1300 GMT 17 Dec 90

[Kojo Apaw commentary]

[Text] The three-day visit to Ghana of the British trade minister, Mr. Timothy Saintsbury [name, title as heard], was significant in at least two respects. First of all, it was perhaps the first high level contact between London and Accra since the 11-year reign of Mrs. Margaret Thatcher ended dramatically last month and Mr. John Major succeeded her as Britain's new premier. Many Africans and their sympathizers heaved a big sigh of relief at the political demise of the Iron Lady because she was not particularly known to be sympathetic to African aspirations and needs.

The period of Mrs. Thatcher's premiership coincided with the most difficult decade in Africa's post independence development. The debt crisis, worsening terms of trade, perennial balance of payment problems, plummeting of commodity prices, hardening of the conditions for concessionary assistance, implementation of harsh and exacting structural adjustment programs, these were some of the well known legacies of the 80's which Mrs. Thatcher dominated with a strong personality and domineering approach.

It is only fair for many in Africa to expect that Mr. Major and his government, notwithstanding the heavy dose of Thatcherism it has inherited, will make a clean break with some of the worst aspects of Britain's African policy and show greater understanding for Africa's ailments. In this, Mr. Major has the advantage of having once lived and worked in West Africa, even if for a brief period only.

The other aspect of the trade minister's visit which needs emphasizing is the fact that Anglo-Ghana trade is reported to have decreased by 16 percent in 1988 and 19 percent in 1989. This trend is disturbing, especially so because it is coming at a time when everybody is gearing up to life in a post 1992 Europe. Britain is Ghana's largest trading partner, and it is important that Ghana should maintain her share of the British market so that come 1992 with its expected protectionist tendencies as well as the expanded conditions for rivalry and competition, there would at least be a strong starting base for the country's exports within the European community. Ghana could also count on having some of the advantages enjoyed in bilateral trade with Britain transferred to the larger European market.

There is, therefore, every reason to work towards reversing the current downward trend. In this regard, Britain should have to assist Ghana's export diversification program, extending assistance in the form of finance, technical know-how, quality control of exports, and, more importantly, enhancing the possibilities for access to European and world markets for these products. British firms should be encouraged to join with their Ghanaian counterparts to produce nontraditional exports, including processed primary commodities.

Lastly, British support for commodity related organizations, especially those for cocoa and coffee, should be more readily offered. Britain's support for Ghana's structural adjustment program has been laudable to date. So has the partial cancellation of debt, and the extension of official development assistance and balance of payment support. But what is needed more now is direct British private investment in Ghana's economy as well as enhancing the possibilities for free and fair bilateral trade to the mutual benefit of both countries.

## Liberia

### Press Union Supports Sawyer Interim Government

AB1812221190 Dakar PANA in English 1826 GMT  
18 Dec 90

[Text] Monrovia, 18 Dec (NAN/PANA)—The Press Union of Liberia, the professional organisation for practising Liberian journalists, has expressed its support for the formation and installation of the Liberian interim government headed by Amos Sawyer, the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports.

The acting president of the union, Emmanuel Abalo, said in an interview with NAN in Monrovia that the press union subscribed to the formation of the interim government as a way to bring all the factions in the Liberian conflict together politically.

Abalo urged the interim government to work relentlessly for a democratic election and uphold the principles of free expression. He advised that the peace efforts should continue on the Liberian crisis until a permanent political solution was found.

Abalo also urged all factions to abandon the arms struggle and work with the interim government in the task of rebuilding the nation. He further urged all Liberians to contribute to the peace process and reconstruction.



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